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HOUSE & GARDEN

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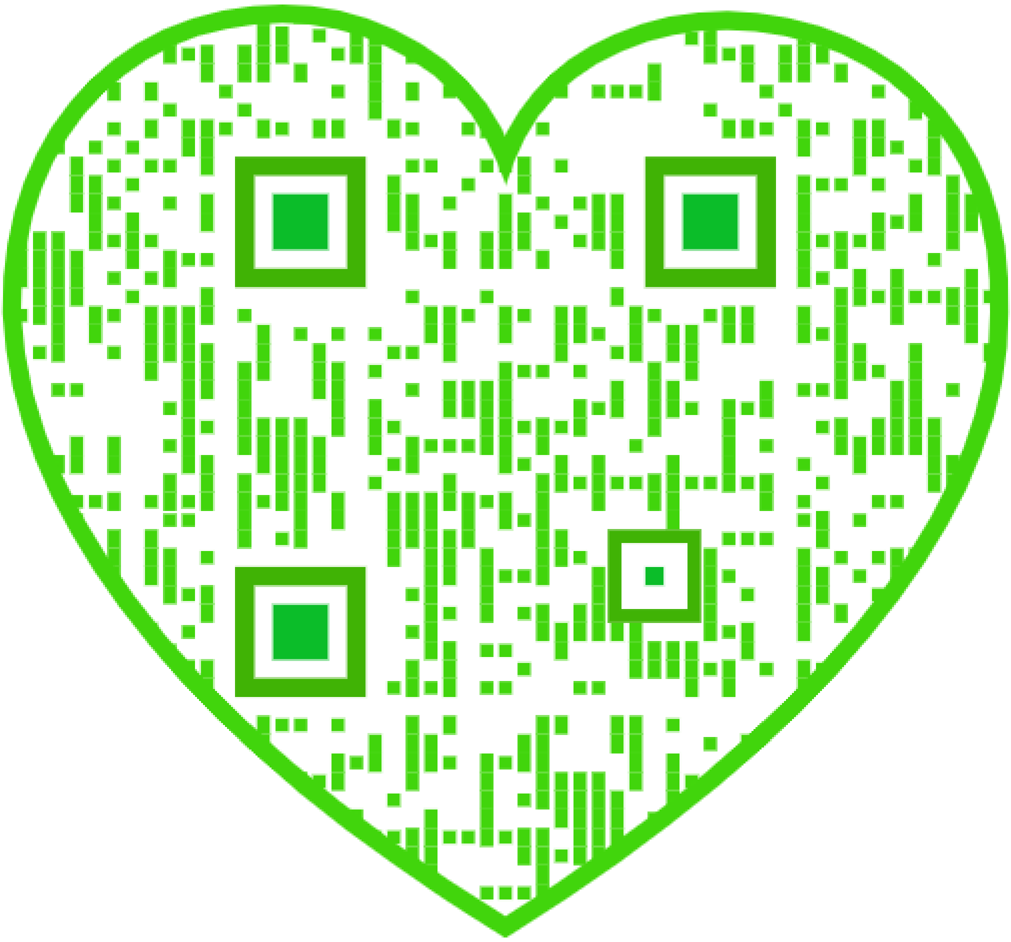
Kitchen CLASSICS

STUNNING SPACES *from* SOFT AND TIMELESS *to* CONTEMPORARY CHIC

Highlands Home **FASHION ICON COLLETTE DINNIGAN**



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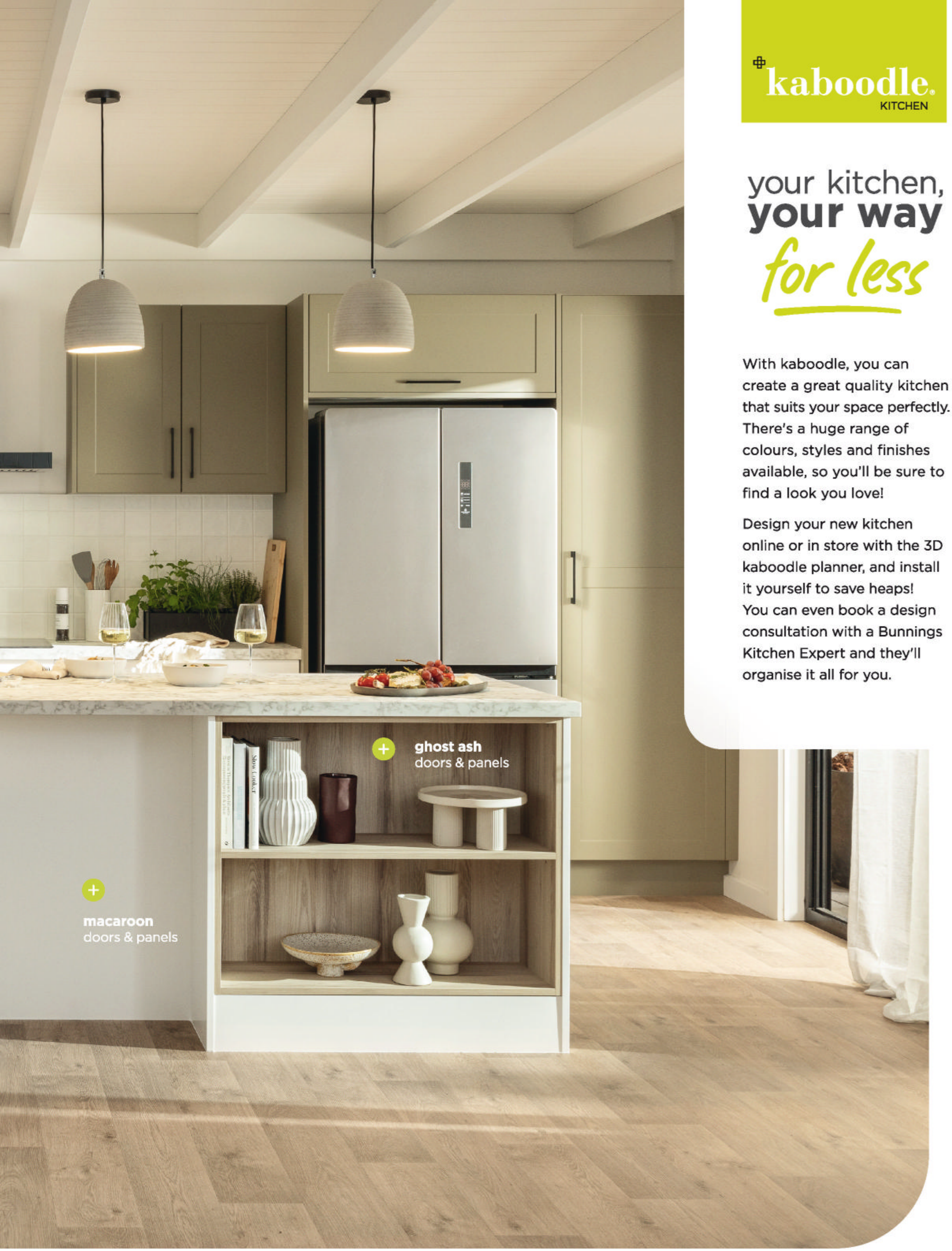

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H&G social

Our posts that made your month.

Bec Judd's stylish weekender on Victoria's Mornington Peninsula won hearts on Instagram, a perennial garden was the most pinned on Pinterest, and on Facebook, a modern coastal reno gathered clicks.

Facebook facebook.com/ australianhouseandgarden
Highlights from each issue plus links to tours of our favourite homes.

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View the most inspirational images of the month from *H&G* headquarters and out and about.

Pinterest pinterest.com.au/ houseandgardenau
Picture-perfect images from our pages and sensational products to covet.

Kitchen Classics

MARCH

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On our cover
A Dulux custom-coloured kitchen designed by Lande beautifully encapsulates the trend toward soft classic style. Captured by Shannon McGrath. See page 174 for details.

Styling by Jack Milenkovic. Photograph by Dave Wheeler.

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Photograph by Esteban La Tessa. Tanya wears Ralph Lauren suit. Hair and make-up by Michelle Cox.

I am a big documentary fan and am fascinated by the trials and triumphs of trailblazers across lots of different genres: politics, art, fashion, film, business, design and architecture. I love coming across that previously unheard part of their story – a subtle insight into what makes them tick. There's always something original, whether you are reading about your subject, listening to them on a podcast or watching a historical analysis of their career. I like that our At Home With stories do this with our one-on-one interviews with homeowners. We are excited to share our exclusive visit to acclaimed fashion designer Collette Dinnigan's house in the NSW Southern Highlands. This is my idea of a dream home! Collette's new book, *Bellissima*, explores her love of Italy and Australia, as well as her talent for house spotting, renovation and all-around design.

It's our special kitchen issue, and I know lots of us spend hours thinking of ways to redesign our kitchens. For expert suggestions on what to buy to refresh your space, see stylist Sophie Wilson's line-up of gorgeous things, all colour-coded to fit into your decor, from page 45 – even if you cannot renovate at present, a pop of newness will help you enjoy your space more. Our selection of good-looking, hardworking kitchens, from page 165, features some inspired ideas for increasing space, light and all-important storage. All the houses in this issue boast unique design credentials. One house I love is the work of designer Samantha Leigh, who transformed a heritage-listed, two-storey corner shop in Brisbane into an elegant pied-à-terre for a downsizing couple and visiting family. This project had its constraints, but the result is calm, serene and European. The kitchen is particularly inviting – see page 78.

Another house that resonates with me is the retrofit of a 1950s weatherboard using Passivhaus design principles. Builder Dylan Farquhar and wife Tylah Ingram, a landscape architect, have created a modern, energy-efficient home in Melbourne's east, page 126. Their use of the EnerPHit model should be of interest to everyone, especially with rising energy bills and a collective desire to tread more lightly.

Even when I am super busy, part of my brain is working on the master plan for the dream property I am going to create down the track. It is in a lush setting with a heritage house, quite a few acres, an orchard, etc., so I find it extremely motivating to read about women like hotel owner Jan Clark (and, of course, Collette) bringing their ideas to reality. Jan created her idyll in a spot she holidayed in as a child and was ahead of the dreamy city tree changers when she developed her property, Lancemore Lindenderry boutique hotel, and its stunning gardens back in the 90s, page 182. If you were looking for a kickstart to your plans for this year, you've come to the right place. Enjoy!

Tanya Buchanan

Tanya Buchanan, Editor-in-Chief

EDITOR'S TOP PICKS

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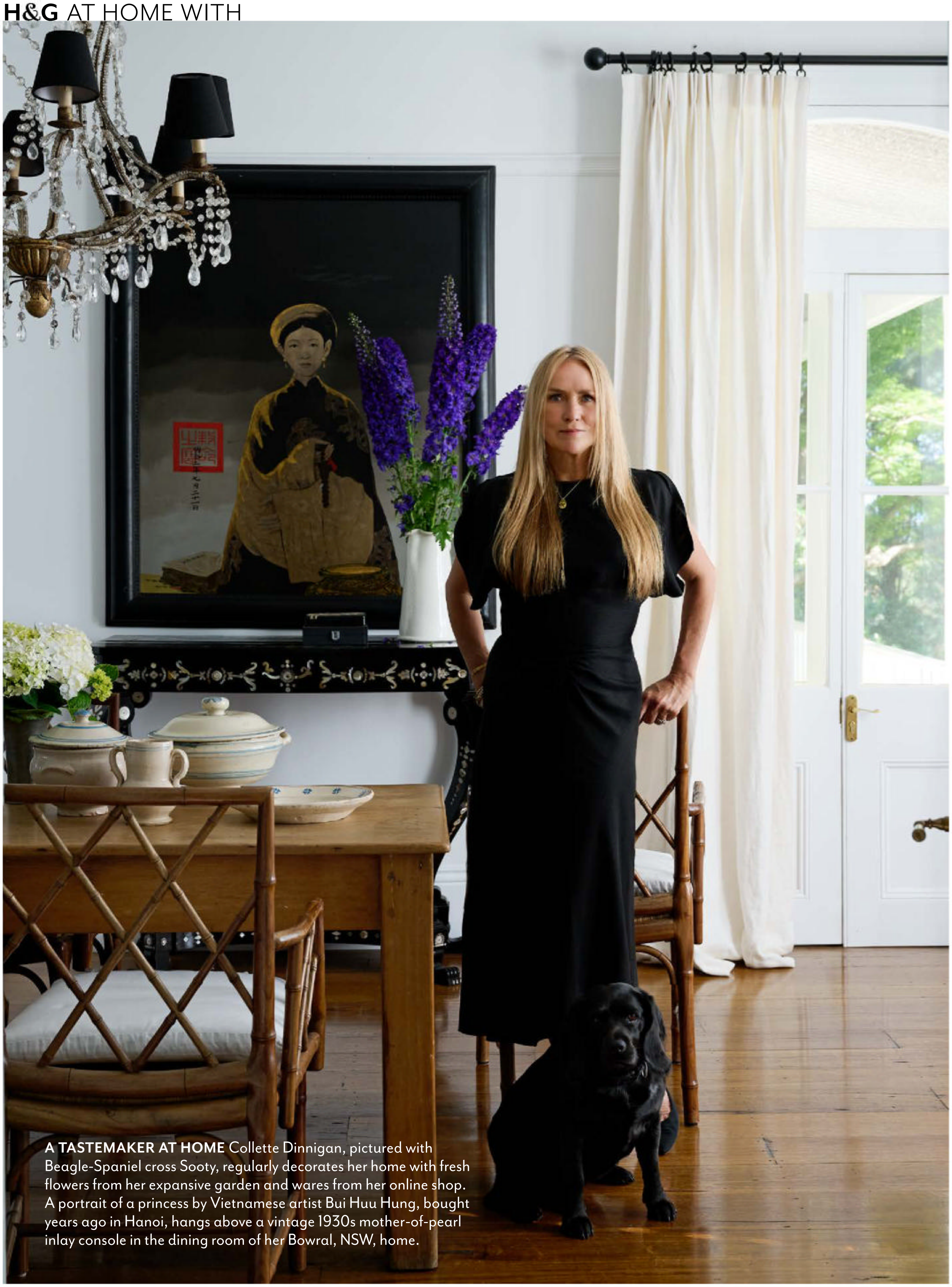
WISH LIST

1 Lumira 'Solar Neroli' **candle** (300g), $90, David Jones. **2** 'Elysian' **basin mixer** in Tumbled Aged Brass, $225, ABI Interiors. **3** *Moments at Home* **book** by Steve Cordony, $70, Hardie Grant. **4** Rose Exposed **lip colour** in 80 Impassioned, $92, Tom Ford. **5** Cup pull and knob **joinery hardware** in Matt Brass, POA, Freedom Kitchens.

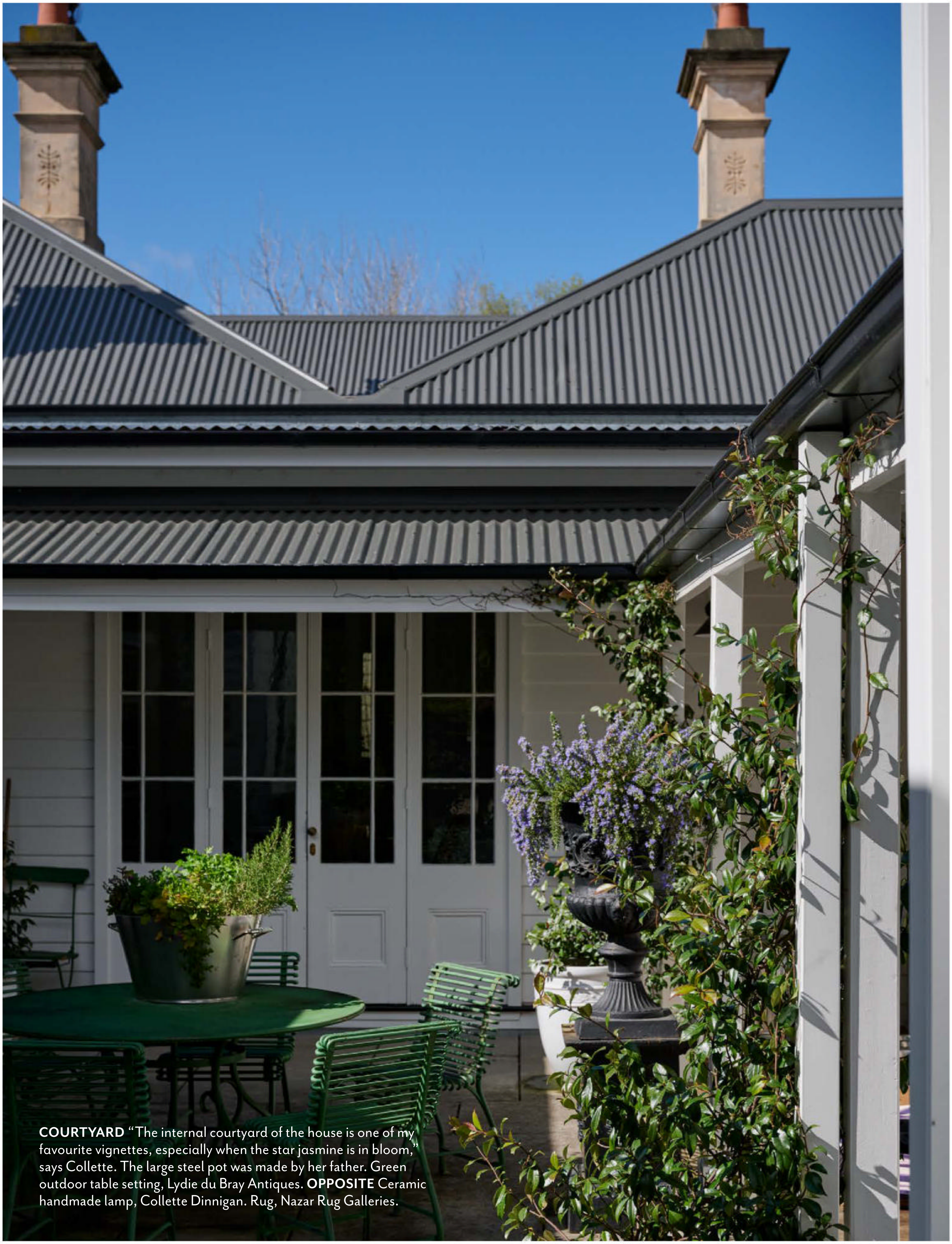


A TASTEMAKER AT HOME Collette Dinnigan, pictured with Beagle-Spaniel cross Sooty, regularly decorates her home with fresh flowers from her expansive garden and wares from her online shop. A portrait of a princess by Vietnamese artist Bui Huu Hung, bought years ago in Hanoi, hangs above a vintage 1930s mother-of-pearl inlay console in the dining room of her Bowral, NSW, home.

Highland SANCTUARY

A labour of love and dedication, designer Collette Dinnigan's NSW country retreat is a carefully curated showcase of her timeless style.

STORY *Kirstie Clements* | PHOTOGRAPHY *Earl Carter*



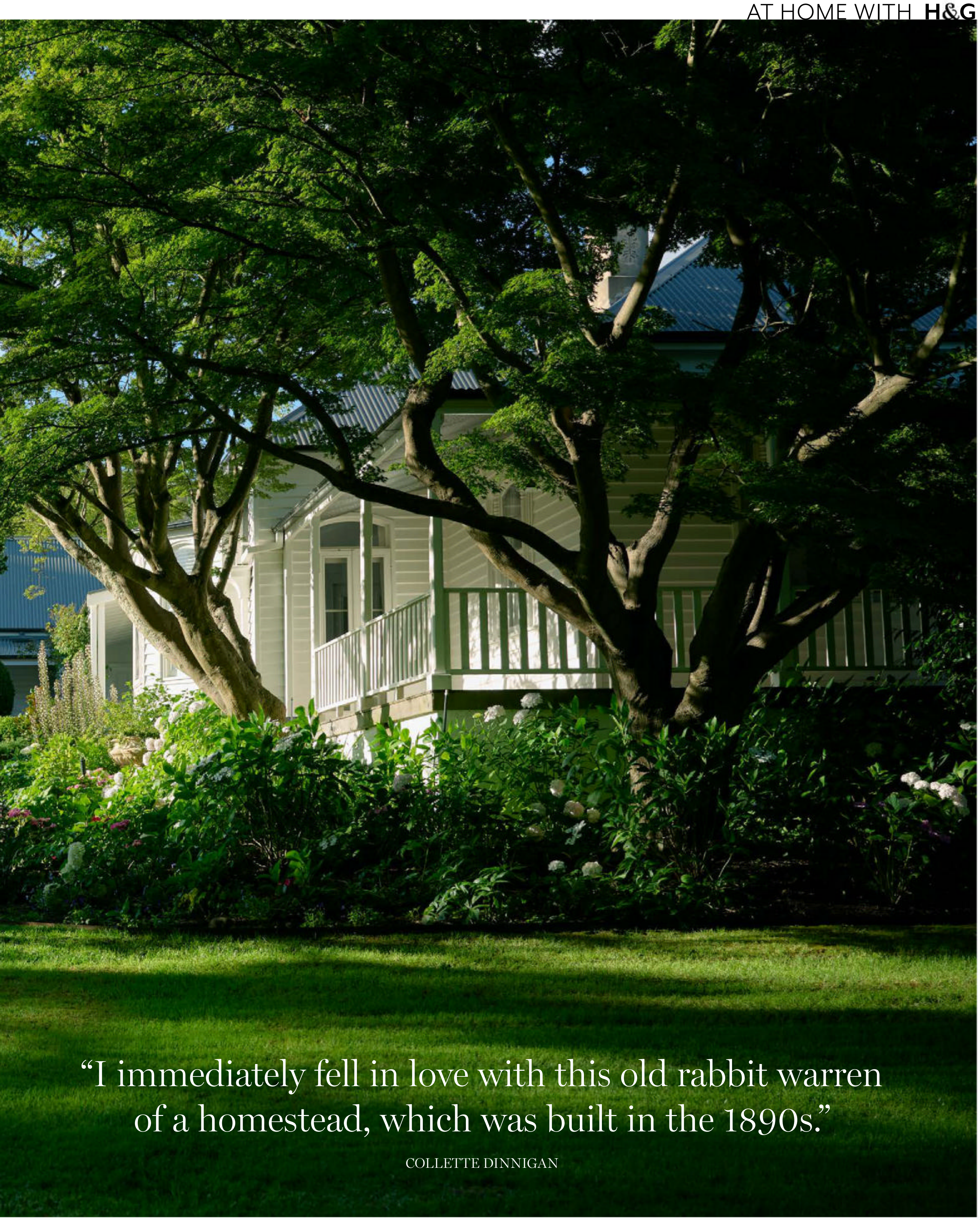
COURTYARD “The internal courtyard of the house is one of my favourite vignettes, especially when the star jasmine is in bloom,” says Collette. The large steel pot was made by her father. Green outdoor table setting, Lydie du Bray Antiques. **OPPOSITE** Ceramic handmade lamp, Collette Dinnigan. Rug, Nazar Rug Galleries.

“My home in the Southern Highlands is an enchanting and happy place,” says fashion and interior designer Collette Dinnigan in her latest book, *Bellissima: An Australian-Italian Affair* (Simon & Schuster). A visual cornucopia, the book chronicles her peripatetic lifestyle in Australia and Italy and shares her taste in interiors, gardens, travel and food. While it features the designer’s properties in Sydney, Puglia and Rome, it’s clear her charming farmhouse in Bowral, NSW, is very close to her heart. She shares the sprawling family home with husband Bradley Cocks and her children, Estella and Hunter.

“I immediately fell in love with this old rabbit warren of a homestead, which was built in the 1890s,” she says. After almost four years of renovating, the two-hectare property hosts a six-bedroom, four-bathroom house, self-contained cottages, and a barn converted into guest accommodation, plus a studio, pool and a wisteria-laden pool house, all surrounded by fruit trees, vegetable gardens and fragrant jasmine, roses and lavender. ▸

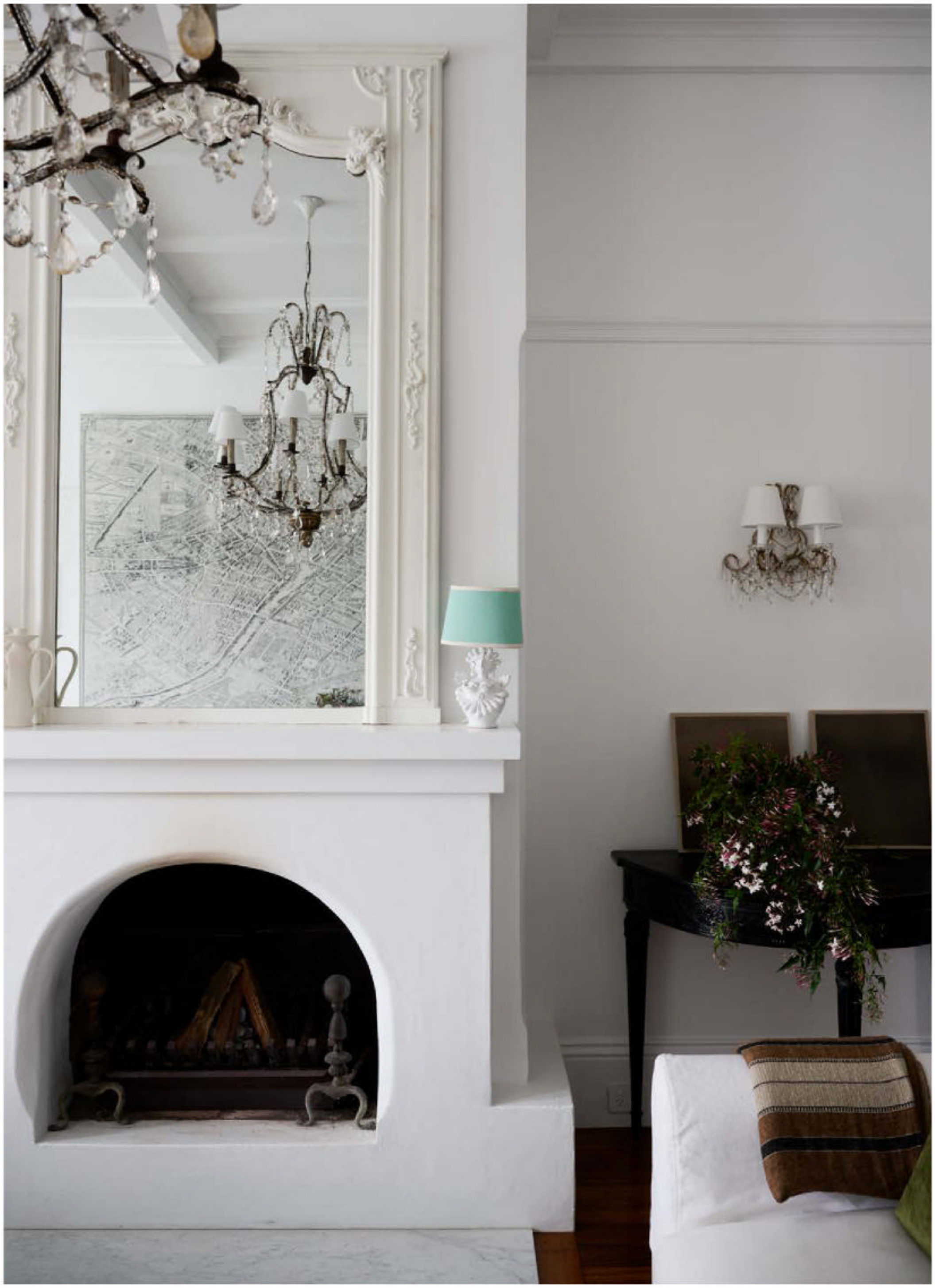
JOHN DERIAN

COUNTRY GARDEN "The property is deeply enchanting and I have spent years planting and reseeding the flower beds, so no matter the time of year, we nearly always have cut flowers in the home," says Collette.



“I immediately fell in love with this old rabbit warren of a homestead, which was built in the 1890s.”

COLLETTE DINNIGAN



FORMAL SITTING ROOM Map of Paris print, Schumacher. **CONSERVATORY** *Opposite* "These incredible, 1000-year-old marble tiles in the conservatory were salvaged from an old church in Belgium," says Collette. "Every bit of wall space is arranged with artwork from my friends and family." Landscape artwork by Michaye Boulter.

"With the large trees, it's like a European garden," says Collette. "It has a grounding feel, one that is very welcoming."

One of our most renowned fashion designers, Collette made an indelible impression on the Australian fashion scene in the 1990s. Her delicate, feminine design signature demonstrated an appreciation of vintage fabrics and lingerie, silk, satin and handmade lace, antique buttons and intricate beadwork. Her collections were soon on the official Chambre Syndicale calendar at Paris Fashion Week, and this prettily romantic Australian-European sensibility is evident in her approach to interiors.

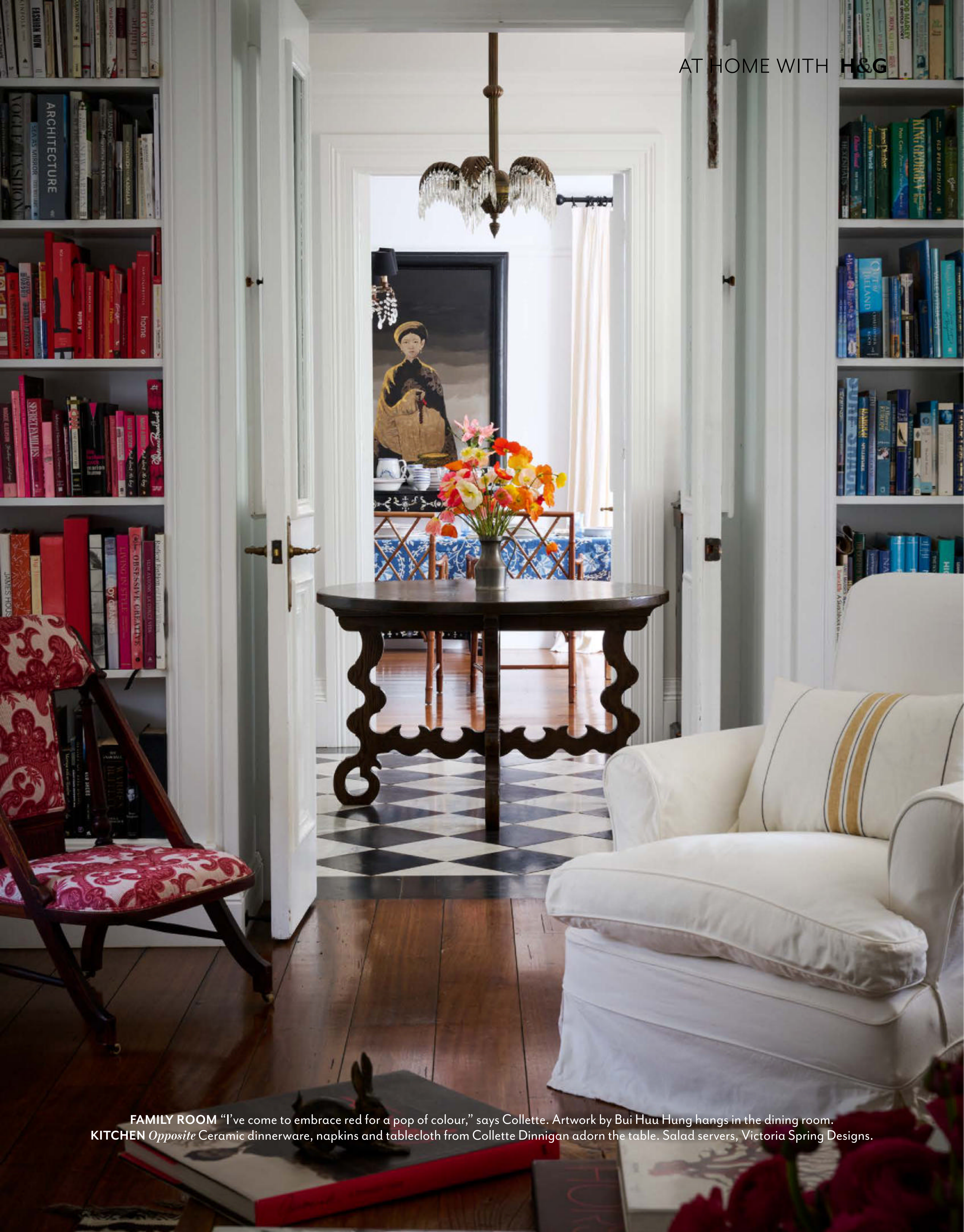
Collette's serene spaces possess all the hallmarks of interiors curated by a fashion designer who has an innate understanding of textiles and colour, as well as the keen eye of a continuously curious collector – someone who has delighted in trawling through markets all over the world, unearthing and breathing new life into vintage finds. During the renovation she was often in Europe "sourcing materials and special pieces that would feel at home within the walls of this historic house".

Her extensive art collection personalises every space. "Every bit of wall space is arranged with artwork from my friends and family." Flowers collected from the garden spill from every vase and urn, and white calico sofas are strewn with cushions. Spacious, sunlit, all-white rooms are punctuated with kilims and hits of bright, deep red seen in a fresh flower or the spine of a book (colour-coded bookshelves are a feature of the airy family room).

The home is a bewitching curation of old complemented by new. The original chimney stacks of the house were lovingly restored, the floor of the conservatory is made up of 1000-year-old black-and-white marble tiles, salvaged from a Belgian church, and the exterior of the pool house is embellished vintage Egyptian shutters. Market finds such as a Murano glass lamp, an unusual side table or chair or a collection of antique vessels, create painterly vignettes in every room. New crisp white bed linen, Italian ceramics and indigo blue tablecloths (from Collette's store), continue the vintage-chic aesthetic.

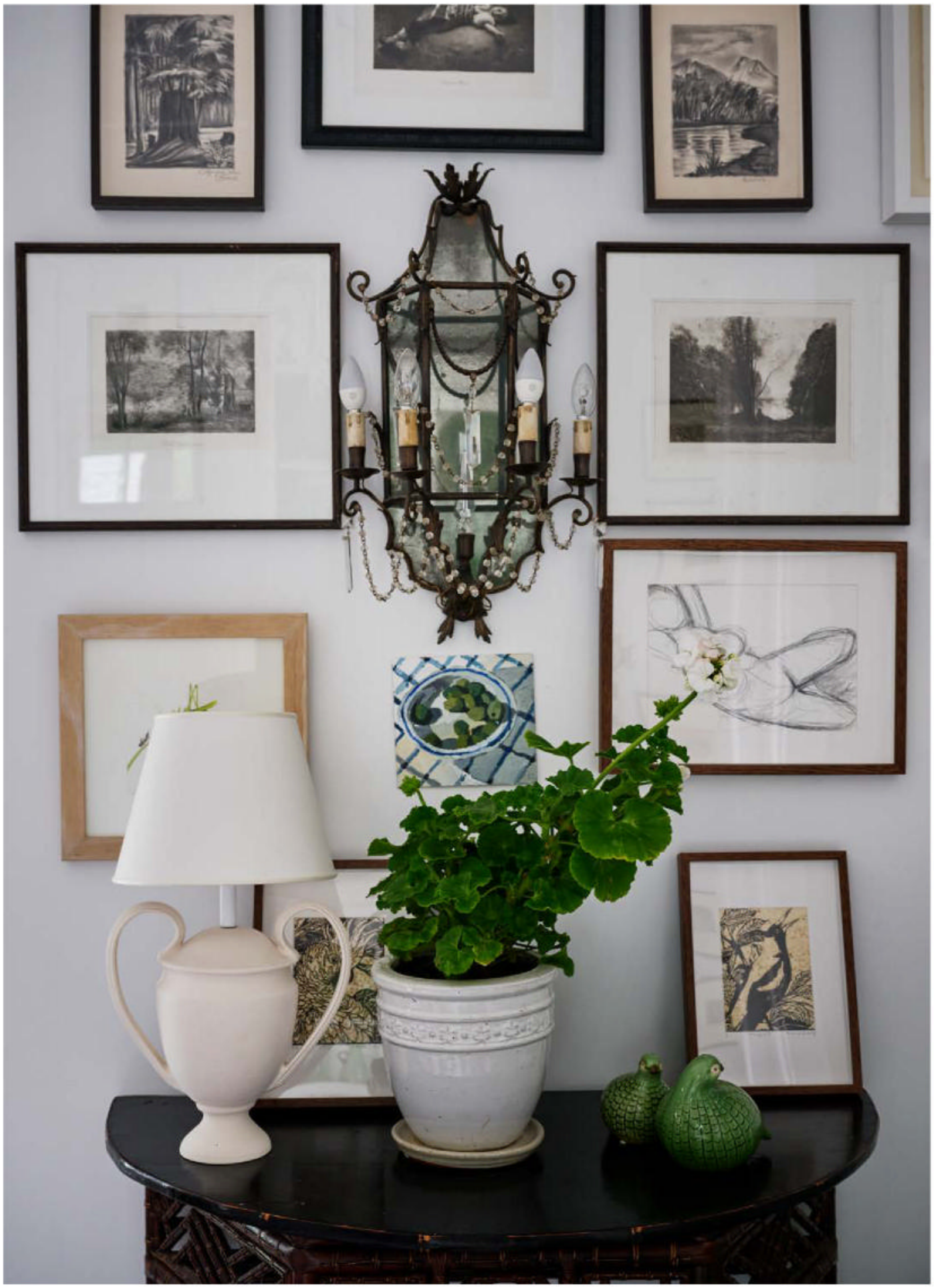
While Collette's property presents as a picture-perfect country home, it is very obviously much-loved and lived in. "It's usually full of people and life," she shares. "It's inviting, friendly and private, and feels secure and cloistered from the world beyond... It's a true sanctuary where I can escape and create." ▶

Select quotes from Bellissima: An Australian-Italian Affair *by Collette Dinnigan, $100, collettedinnigan.com.*



FAMILY ROOM "I've come to embrace red for a pop of colour," says Collette. Artwork by Bui Huu Hung hangs in the dining room.
KITCHEN *Opposite* Ceramic dinnerware, napkins and tablecloth from Collette Dinnigan adorn the table. Salad servers, Victoria Spring Designs.

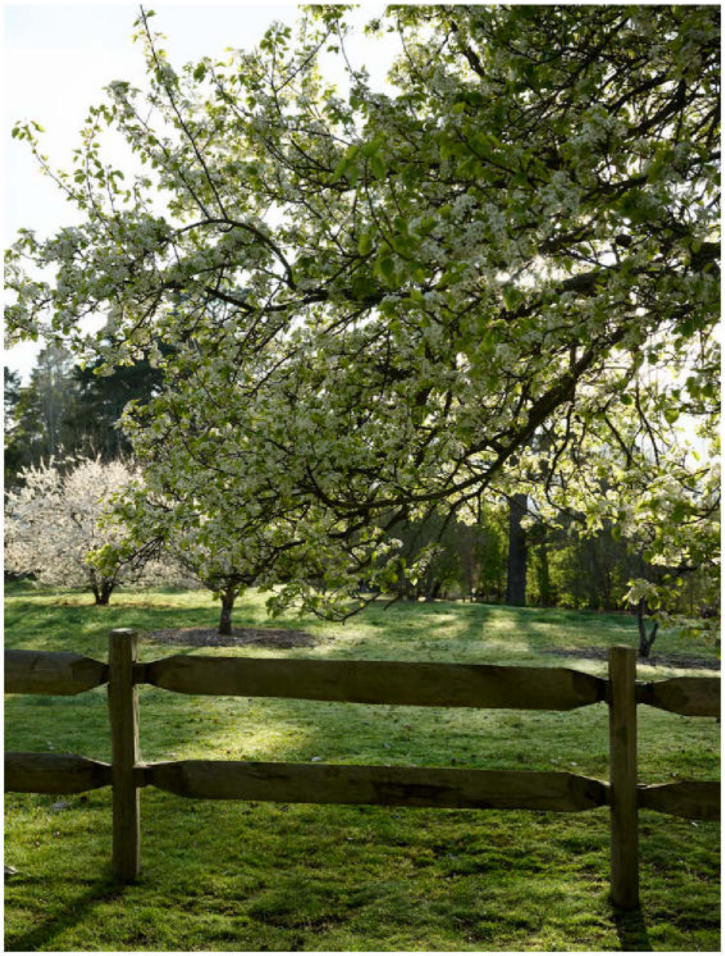
THE WORLD IN VOGUE
CABINET OF NATURAL CURIOSITIES
THE WORLD'S MOST BEAUTIFUL HORSES

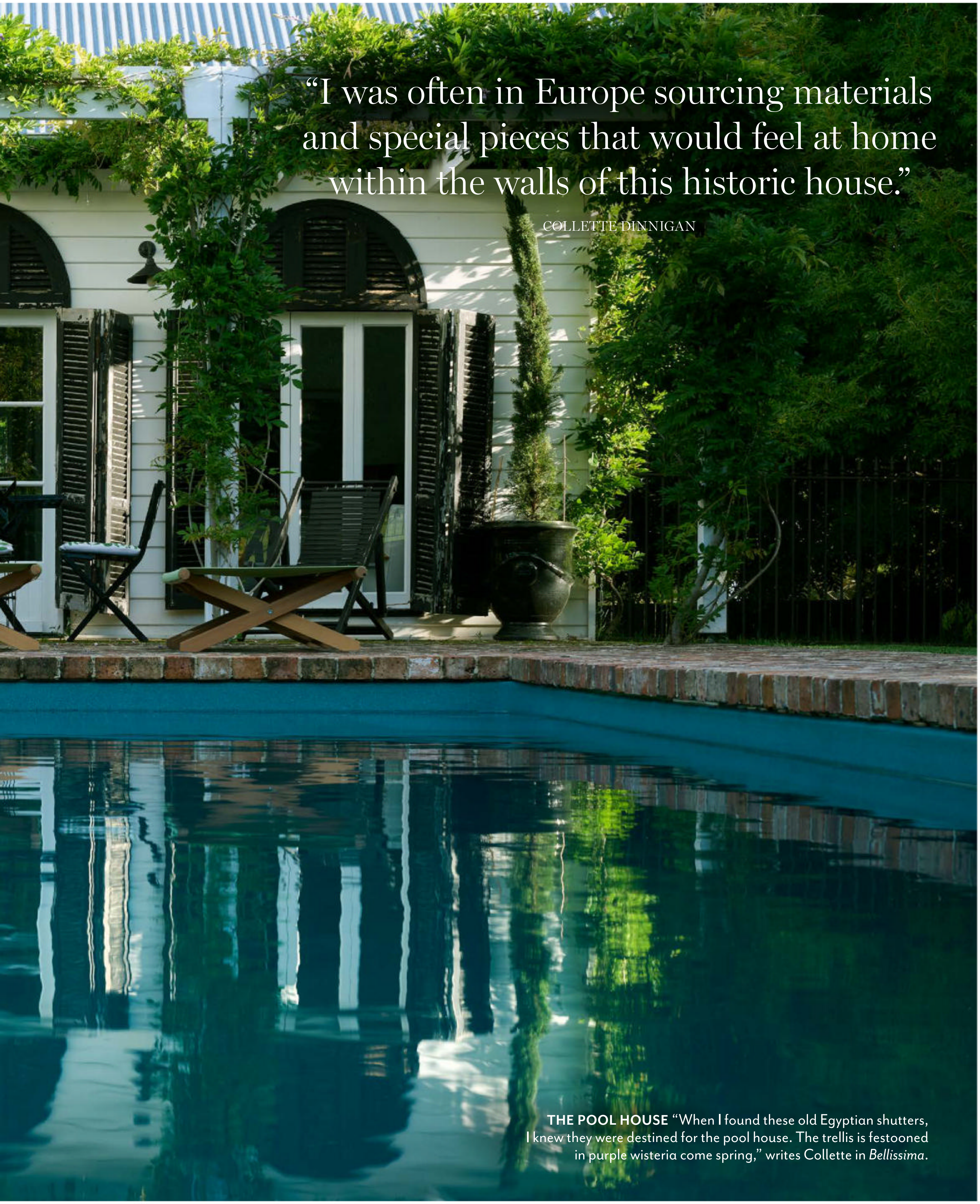


GALLERY WALL The historic house is "usually full of people and life and is absolutely brimming with art I've collected over the years. It's inviting, friendly and private, and feels secure and cloistered from the world beyond," says Collette. Artworks by friends of Collette, including a small oil paint in the centre by Zoe Young. Ceramic handmade lamp, Collette Dinnigan. **SITTING ROOM** *Opposite* Illustrations by Nina Fuga. Oil painting by Guy Maestri to the right.

> “There’s a magical cottage garden where I spend much of my time.”
>
> COLLETTE DINNIGAN

OUTDOOR ENTERTAINING Outdoor table and chairs, Lydie du Bray Antiques. **OPPOSITE** The rambling gardens provide peaceful solitude and plenty of creative inspiration. *Bottom right* Photograph of a Margaret Olley painting by Hugh Stewart. *Bottom left* “We restored four of these lovely original chimney stacks marked with the homestead’s insignia, but we had to replace the roof and window sashes,” explains Collette.





> “I was often in Europe sourcing materials and special pieces that would feel at home within the walls of this historic house.”
>
> COLLETTE DINNIGAN

THE POOL HOUSE “When I found these old Egyptian shutters, I knew they were destined for the pool house. The trellis is festooned in purple wisteria come spring,” writes Collette in *Bellissima*.

> “My studio is also on site. It’s a true sanctuary, where I can escape and create.”
>
> COLLETTE DINNIGAN

BEDROOM *Above left* The dog portrait was drawn by Collette’s daughter Estella when she was little. *Top right* Framed paper horses by Jamie Gordon. *Opposite* “I love Australian artist Guy Maestri’s work, particularly this oil painting called *No Man’s Land*.” Vintage Murano glass lamp. **BATHROOM** Each space in the home encapsulates Collette’s sophisticated style, merging vintage finds with polished finishes and modern convenience.

LIFE & STYLE

Collette Dinnigan shares some of her favourite things.

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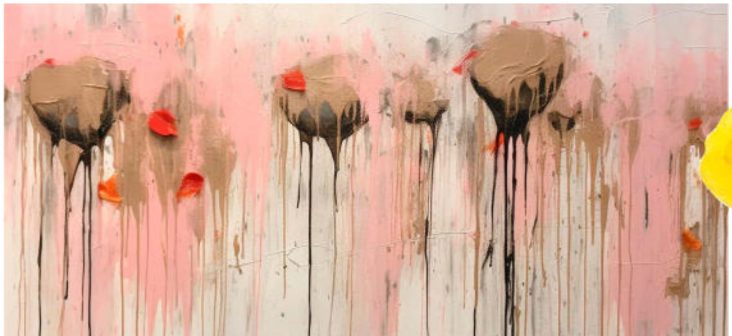
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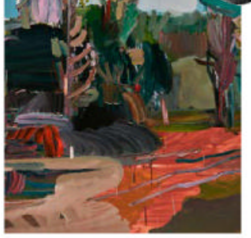
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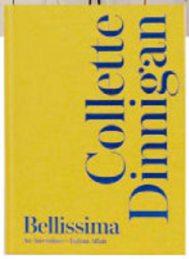

6

7

> "I LOVE TO COOK WITH SEASONAL, FLAVOURSOME FOOD, PICKED FRESH FROM THE GARDEN." *Collette Dinnigan*

MY FIRST HOME It was an old, one bedroom sandstone cottage in [Sydney's] Surry Hills. It had a lovely tropical garden with eucalyptus trees, and I would do lots of cooking, play music and entertain in my young and wild days! I remember supermodel Helena Christensen being there one night, and she opened the door at 2am to a neighbour, who was complaining about the noise we were all making!

ON MY BEDSIDE TABLE *Orbital* by Samantha Harvey, the 2024 Booker Prize winner. *Salt: A World History* by Mark Kurlansky. I also read a lot of non-fiction and reference books about things close to my interests, like gardening, kitchens, art and permaculture. And, of course, my new book, *Bellissima: An Australian-Italian Affair* (Simon & Schuster) (6).

I'M INSPIRED BY THE WORK OF... I find international artist Cy Twombly (2) interesting. In terms of Australian artists, I love the landscape work of Guy Maestri (4), Luke Sciberras' watercolours and inks, and Louise Olsen.

FAVOURITE FRAGRANCE Eau de Rhubarbe Ecarlate eau de cologne by Hermès (1).

I LOVE TO COOK... I want to say I'm a cook, not a chef! I love to cook with seasonal, flavoursome food, picked fresh from the garden, rustic in feel, with everything (such as stock) cooked from scratch.

I LOVE A VASE FULL OF... Wild roses, colourful hydrangeas, yellow poppies (3), English lavender and rosemary – anything picked from my garden.

NEXT TRAVEL DESTINATION Hong Kong. My husband, Bradley, and I are going with friends and we intend to eat and cook our way around the place!

FAVOURITE MOVIE *Whale Rider* (2002), directed by Niki Caro.

IN MY WARDROBE I wear a lot of Bassike (7). It has a smart-casual style that is effortless, and it's very good quality.

DREAM CAR A vintage two-seater Mercedes with red leather seats (5). I'd turn the radio up loud and just go cruising with Bradley, without children and dogs!

PERFECT WEEKEND An autumn day with the sun on your back and lunch in the country, a house full of friends and family, and everyone is happy, pets included, without a care in the world.

ON MY WISH LIST I'd like to rediscover the country where I was born, South Africa. I haven't been back there since I was seven years old. And I'd love to visit Kruger National Park. **H&G**

Artwork by Cy Twombly (2) and Guy Maestri (4). Photograph by Getty Images (3).

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Select your perfect vision of personal comfort with Domayne's range of adjustable sleep solutions.

TEMPUR FORM™
ULTRA
MEDIUM
TEMPUR

R FORM™
ULTRA
MEDIUM

Ultimate support

Experience the ultimate sleep solution with the TEMPUR® 'Form' Mattress and Zero-G 'Ease 3.0' Adjustable Bed Base – the latest mattress and evolution in the range, and exclusive to Domayne. At the core of the mattress is the unique pressure-relieving TEMPUR® Adapt material. Developed from NASA technology, this mattress boasts billions of ultra-sensitive cells that adapt to your unique weight, shape and warmth, precisely aligning to every inch of your body throughout the night for comfort and support that are out of this world. Achieve a healthy and rejuvenating sleep by putting your TEMPUR® 'Form' Mattress on the 'Ease 3.0' Adjustable Bed Base. It's not just for sleeping – the adjustable base supports you while in a seating position, for comfort while reading or watching television. You can even enjoy a seamless transition between positions with the TEMPUR® Smooth Power™ Lifting System.

Sustainable sleep

The TEMPUR® 'Form' Mattress bears an OEKO-TEX® MADE IN GREEN label, so you can sleep better knowing it's produced ethically and sustainably, and free from harmful substances. Wake feeling energised, refreshed and ready for the day.

TEMPUR®

MADE IN DENMARK

TEMPUR 'FORM' ULTRA 27CM MATTRESS IN SPLIT KING $9798; TEMPUR 'EASE 3.0' ADJUSTABLE BASE IN SPLIT KING $1798; TEMPUR 'SYMPHONY' PILLOW $159; 'COCO' BEDSIDE TABLE WITH METAL BASE $359EA; 'AMELIA' LAMP BASE IN BISCUIT $149; 'LEIA' LAMP SHADE IN VANILLA $54; CÔTE NOIRE 'GOLD BADGE' SINGLE IVORY ROSE $40; 'SALLY' VASE SMALL IN MUSTARD $79; GLASSHOUSE 'KYOTO IN BLOOM' CAMELLIA & LOTUS CANDLE (380G) $54.95; EADIE LIFESTYLE 'ELEMENT' CUSHION IN OCHRE (50X50CM) $129; AURA 'HERRINGBONE' KHAKI CUSHION (35X55CM) $69; WAFFLE WEAVE 'PEBBLE' QUEEN BLANKET $139; 'ORSON' SHEER SINGLE CURTAIN IN WHITE (180X250CM) $69; 'DUNE' IVORY JUTE AND WOOL RUG EXTRA LARGE (240X330CM) $899.

DOMAYNE®

Thermal control

Everybody has different preferences when it comes to a good night's sleep. Exclusive to Domayne, the Dunlopillo by SleepMaker 'Hayman Plush' Mattress features a five-zoned, high-definition micro-pocket coil system that offers targeted support and pressure relief while you sleep. In addition, this network of mini pocket coils will keep you cool and supported throughout the night so you wake up refreshed, re-energised and ready for the day. Boasting both innovative KulKote temperature regulation technology and copper-infused comfort foam that absorbs and releases heat to provide dynamic thermal control, the Dunlopillo mattress comes in four levels: Super Firm, Firm, Medium and Plush. Finally, cashmere fibres provide a smooth, breathable touch.

Adjustable for perfect comfort

Beneath the mattress, there's even more choice with the support of the 'Delta Wave' Adjustable Base. Fully upholstered in polyester fabric, it provides great strength and stability, while the adjustable back and foot ends aim to give pain relief by alleviating pressure points. Select the optimal position for how you're feeling, from lifted and supported to zero gravity and relaxed, then drift off in ultimate comfort.

dunlopillo by SleepMaker.

AUSTRALIAN MADE

DUNLOPILLO BY SLEEPMAKER 'HAYMAN' PLUSH QUEEN MATTRESS $4599; DUNLOPILLO 'DELTA WAVE' QUEEN ADJUSTABLE BASE $999; SLEEPMAKER 'TENCEL' COPPER INFUSED MEMORY FOAM PILLOW MEDIUM $215EA; 'COCO' FLUTED BLACK BEDSIDE TABLE $799EA; 'WAVE' LOW KHAKI VASE $79; 'MILES DOME' MARBLE TABLE LAMP $299; 'DURHAM' SULPHUR CUSHION (50X50CM) $59; 'CECIL' TERRACOTTA CUSHION (50X50CM) $69; CÔTE NOIRE 'ART DECO' BLONDE VANILLA CANDLE (200G) $59.95; AURA 'WAFFLE' CLOVE THROW (140X200CM) $169; 'LUCAS' GREY RIBBED PLANTER (LARGE) $189; 'RODERICK' IVORY RUG EXTRA LARGE (230X330CM) $1449.

DOMAYNE®

dunlopillo by SleepMaker
HAYMAN PLUSH
The Art of Home
CURATE
LIVE BEAUTI

Stay cool and
supported with
the high-definition
micro-pocket
coil system.

Don't compromise on mattress position, thanks to A.H. Beard's innovative Split Head system.

Birch
Comfort/Support
A.H.BEARD
NATURE'S REST

Partners in comfort

There's no need to compromise on comfort and sleep preferences, courtesy of the A.H. Beard 'Birch' Split Head Mattress. Exclusive to Domayne, the range is available in King or Queen sizes along with stylish Split Head Sheet Sets and Mattress Protectors to fit. When you select from the Birch range, you can specify your firmness level – Medium/Plush or Firm – for each side of the mattress. And once you're installed in the bedroom, you and your partner can select separate elevation options for the head section while keeping the rest of the sleep surface united. Position yourself according to your individual needs, ensuring a great night's sleep on both sides of the bed. The Talalay Latex Support Core provides support throughout the night, as well as pressure-relief comfort and minimum motion transfer, so you can roll over without disturbing your partner. Your rest is further enhanced by the Talalay Comfort Layer, boasting naturally hypoallergenic and antimicrobial breathability.

Adaptive support

Teamed with the 'Renew' Adjustable Base, this system features three preset positions and a memory button, making it easier than ever to set yourself up for a restful and rejuvenating night. Select from one of the pre-programmed options, or take control and personalise your bedding settings as required. And if you're not quite ready to nod off, you can also position your mattress to watch TV or read.

A.H.BEARD
PREMIUM SLEEP SINCE 1899

AUSTRALIAN MADE AND OWNED

MOST SATISFIED CUSTOMERS 2024 CANSTAR BLUE MATTRESSES

A.H. BEARD NATURE'S REST 'BIRCH' SPLIT HEAD COMFORT/SUPPORT KING MATTRESS $4699; A.H. BEARD 'RENEW' SPLIT HEAD KING ADJUSTABLE BASE $2599; A.H. BEARD 'GEL INFUSED' MEMORY FOAM PILLOW $115; 'ZARA MOON' BLACK SIDE TABLE $299EA; 'WESTON' MUSTARD VASE $79; 'HEX' BLUSH POT $79; 'ALLY' TAN CUSHION (50X50CM) $59; EADIE LIFESTYLE 'NOAH' CUSHION IN NUTMEG (50X50CM) $119; 'FLYNN' CAPPUCCINO THROW $79; ROBERT GORDON 'ORIGIN SOLITUDE' BOWL $109; CÔTE NOIRE 'ART DECO' PINK CHAMPAGNE CANDLE (200G) $59.95; 'ORSON' SHEER SINGLE CURTAIN IN WHITE (180X250CM) $69EA; 'CATALINA' BLACK FLOOR LAMP $409; 'ZALIA' CORD PUTTY RUG LARGE (200X290CM) $599.

DOMAYNE®

Smartex: smart sleep

Providing the ultimate in personalisation, the Sealy 'Acclaim' Ultra Mattress, exclusive to Domayne, also boasts Smartex technology that draws away moisture and regulates temperature while you sleep, as well as cushioning quilt foam and a network of coils that sense and respond to your movements, reducing pressure on your back and working to align your body in its natural posture. Whether you're reading in bed, catching up on emails or preparing to drift off to sleep, this Sealy Posturepedic system is ready to accommodate your needs in any given moment. With the touch of a button, you can provide your body with the support it needs to be comfortable in any situation.

A new angle of comfort

Select from a range of angles and positions with the independently mobile head, middle and foot sections of the 'Ascent' Queen Adjustable Base. Built with shock-absorbing, low-profile DuraFlex modules to ensure long-lasting comfort, this base also comes with dual massage functionality, underbed lighting and fast-charge USB ports for your devices.

SEALY POSTUREPEDIC 'ACCLAIM' DESTINY SILK ULTRA PLUSH QUEEN MATTRESS $2899; 'ASCENT' QUEEN ADJUSTABLE BASE $2399; SEALY 'OPTIMAL COMFORT' CONTOUR PILLOWS $179EA; 'MONTAUK' 1-DRAWER BEDSIDE TABLE SMALL $1159EA; 'CENZO' CYLINDER POT (TALL) $329, (SHORT) $220; CÔTE NOIRE 'GOLD BADGE' FRENCH MORNING TEA DIFFUSER (150ML) $55; KAS 'LEONA' CUSHION IN WATTLE (50X50CM) $69; EADIE LIFESTYLE 'ELEMENT' CUSHION IN GREEN (50X50CM) $129; 'AURA' WAFFLE CAPER THROW (140X200CM) $169; 'THEODORE' FLOOR LAMP $479; 'ARCH' LARGE VASE $59; 'MINX' CERAMIC WHITE QUILTED VASE (SMALL) $59; ROBERT GORDON 'SPECKLE' TABLE OF PLENTY BOWL $74; 'PERLA' BLUSH RUG WITH FRINGE LARGE (200X290CM) $599.

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DOMAYNE®

Posturepedic
ACCLAIM ULTRA
ARENT & PYKE

Sealy's award-winning sleep system has it all: fast-charge, underbed lighting and dual massage.

steel
window
design.

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We only use the highest quality Australian steel and specialise
in both residential and commercial projects across Australia.**

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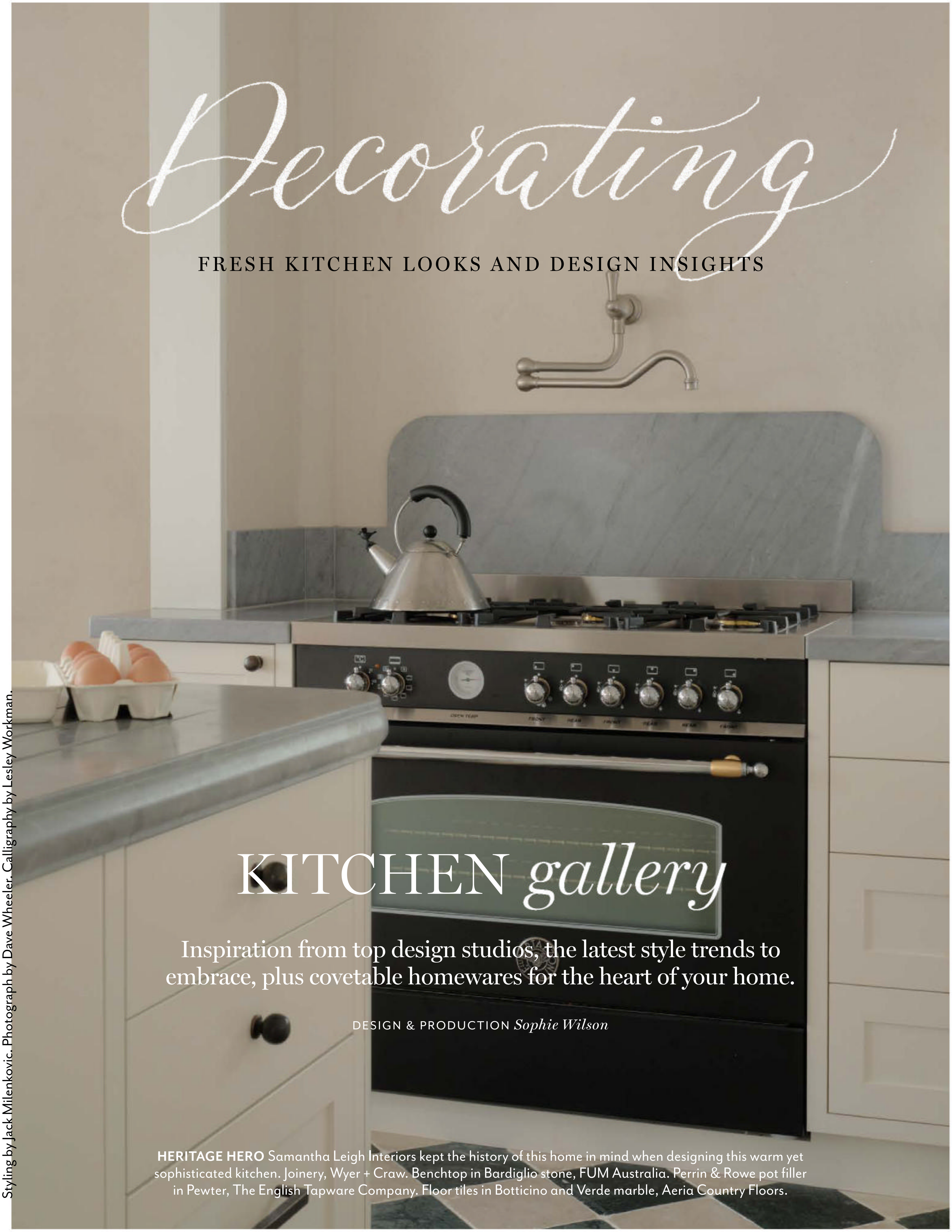

Decorating

FRESH KITCHEN LOOKS AND DESIGN INSIGHTS

KITCHEN *gallery*

Inspiration from top design studios, the latest style trends to embrace, plus covetable homewares for the heart of your home.

DESIGN & PRODUCTION *Sophie Wilson*

HERITAGE HERO Samantha Leigh Interiors kept the history of this home in mind when designing this warm yet sophisticated kitchen. Joinery, Wyer + Craw. Benchtop in Bardiglio stone, FUM Australia. Perrin & Rowe pot filler in Pewter, The English Tapware Company. Floor tiles in Botticino and Verde marble, Aeria Country Floors.

Styling by Jack Milenkovic. Photograph by Dave Wheeler. Calligraphy by Lesley Workman.

KITCHEN TRENDS

TERRACOTTA TONES

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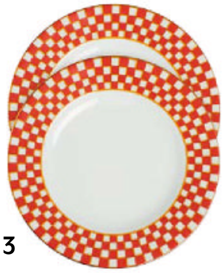

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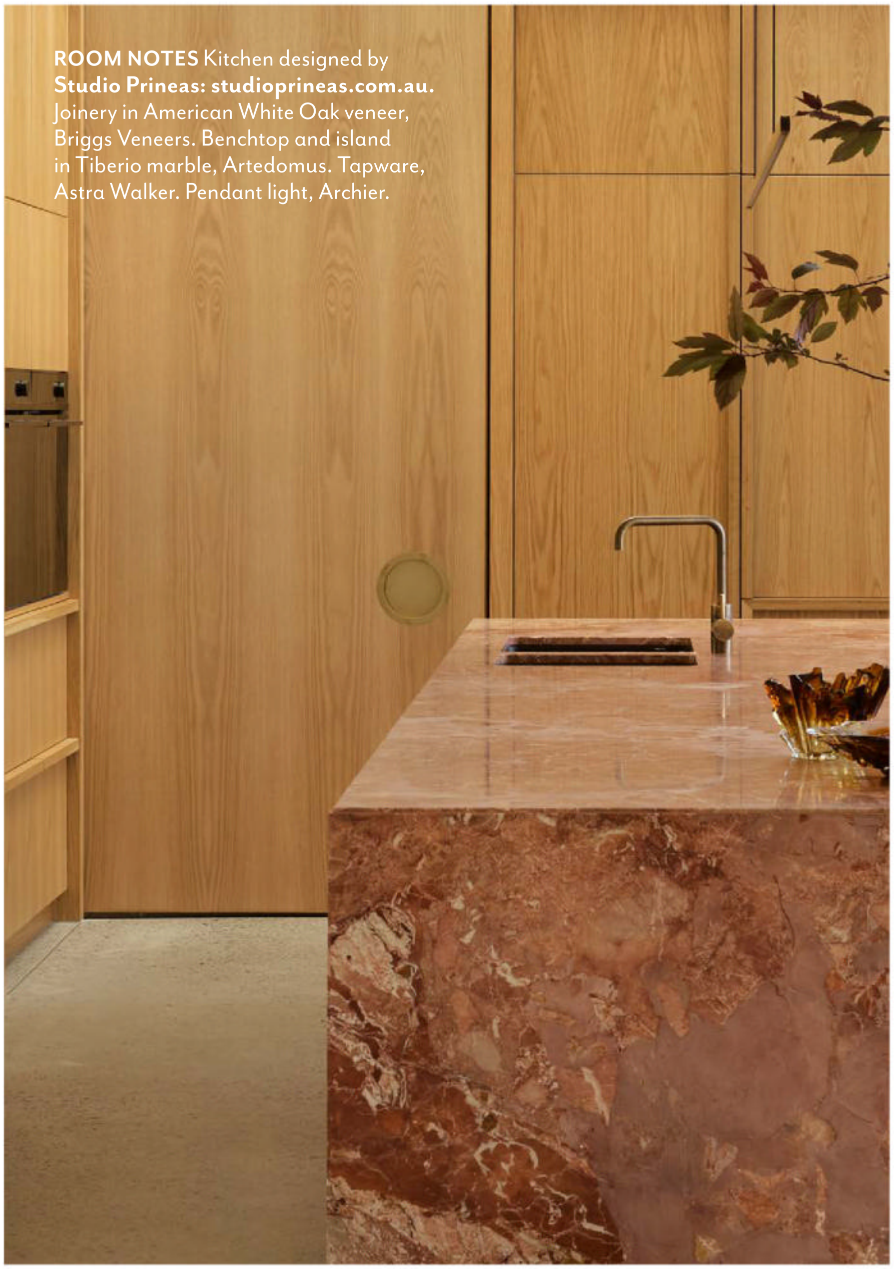

ROOM NOTES Kitchen designed by **Studio Prineas: studioprineas.com.au.** Joinery in American White Oak veneer, Briggs Veneers. Benchtop and island in Tiberio marble, Artedomus. Tapware, Astra Walker. Pendant light, Archier.

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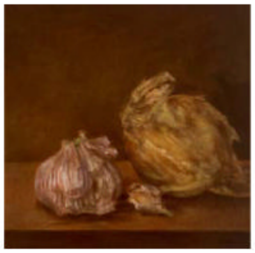

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1 'Elysian' commercial pull-out **kitchen mixer** in Brushed Copper, $549, ABI Interiors. 2 Enamel **teaspoon** in Tan, $13, Bonnie and Neil. 3 'Apollo Brick' **dinner plates** in Porcelain, $400/two, La Double J. 4 Australian House & Garden hammered **wine glass** in Brown, $49.95/four, Myer. 5 'Stingrays' stoneware **ceramic vessel** by Rebekah Clark, $240, Cleo Collects. 6 Large fish ceramic oval **platter**, $360, Alex and Trahanas. 7 Sabre 'Bistrot' **cutlery set** in Burgundy, $77/four, Selfridges. 8 'Kone' **kettle**, $210, Le Creuset. 9 *Garlic & Onion* **still life** by K. Mizuno, $890, Cleo Collects. 10 'Pesce' resin **pitcher**, $79.95, Freedom. 11 Black Blaze 'Linea' slim **tray**, $98, Designstuff.

Kitchen photograph by Anson Smart. Styling by Claire Delmar.

KITCHEN TRENDS

PRETTY PASTELS

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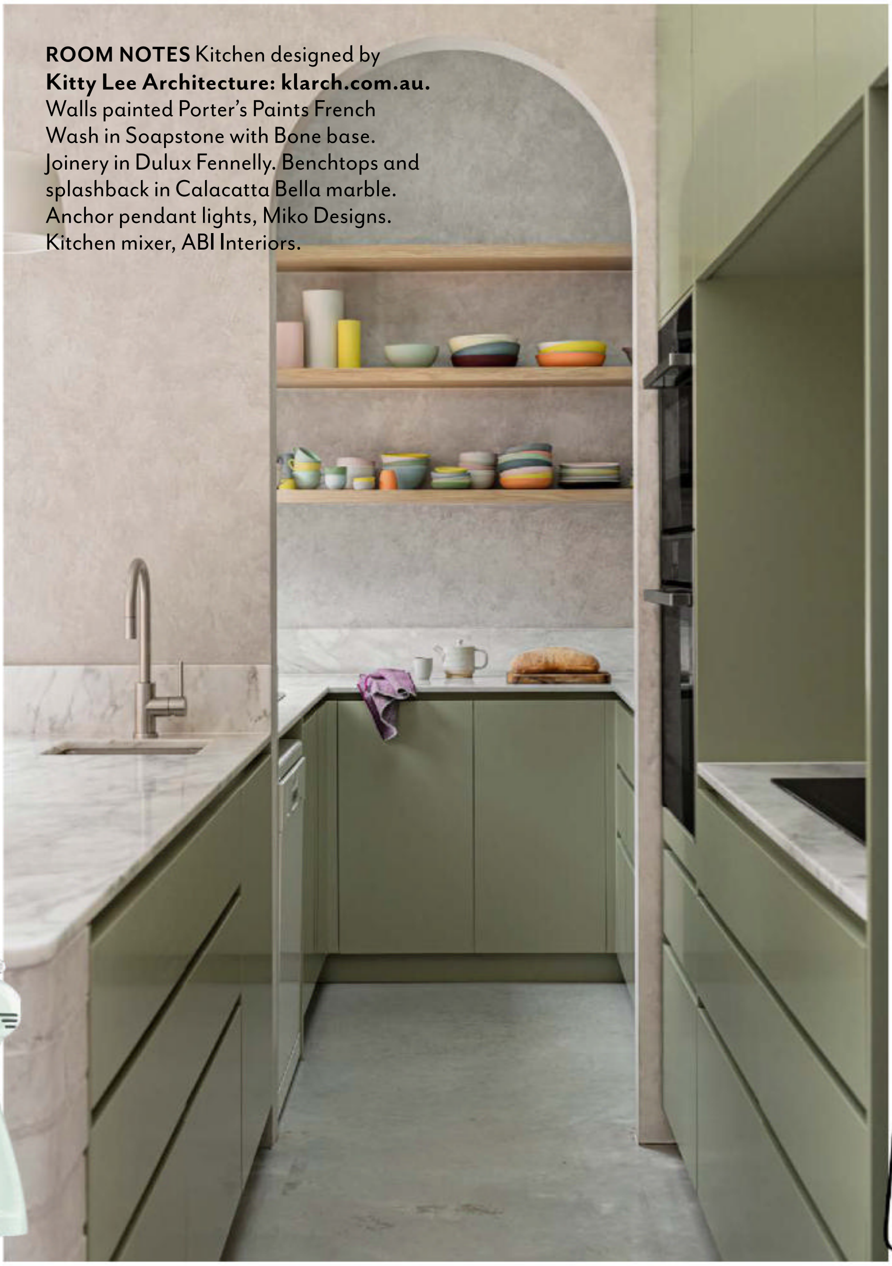

ROOM NOTES Kitchen designed by **Kitty Lee Architecture: klarch.com.au.** Walls painted Porter's Paints French Wash in Soapstone with Bone base. Joinery in Dulux Fennelly. Benchtops and splashback in Calacatta Bella marble. Anchor pendant lights, Miko Designs. Kitchen mixer, ABI Interiors.

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1 'Bobbin' wooden **salt and pepper grinder** in Sage, $113, Selfridges. 2 'Twister' wooden **salt and pepper grinder** in Leaf Green, $113, Selfridges. 3 'Flow' **dessert bowl** in Lemon, $90, Dinosaur Designs. 4 'Polkadot' fish bowl **vase** in Pistachio, $89, Kip&Co. 5 Yali Glass **champagne coupe** in Pink, $614, Net-A-Porter. 6 **Salad servers** in Lilac and Mint, $29, In the Roundhouse. 7 50s-style **stand mixer** in Pastel Green, $799, Smeg. 8 Retro stovetop **whistling kettle**, from $200, Smeg. 9 **Cutlery set** in Pink and Green, $120/16, In the Roundhouse. 10 Bitossi Home mixed **dessert cups**, $245/six, Emporean. 11 Hay **jug** with green handle, $123, Finnish Design Shop. 12 'Luna' soft **bar stool**, $909, King Living. ▶

Kitchen photograph by The Palm Co.

KITCHEN TRENDS

COUNTRY LIFE

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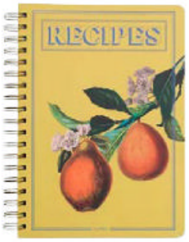

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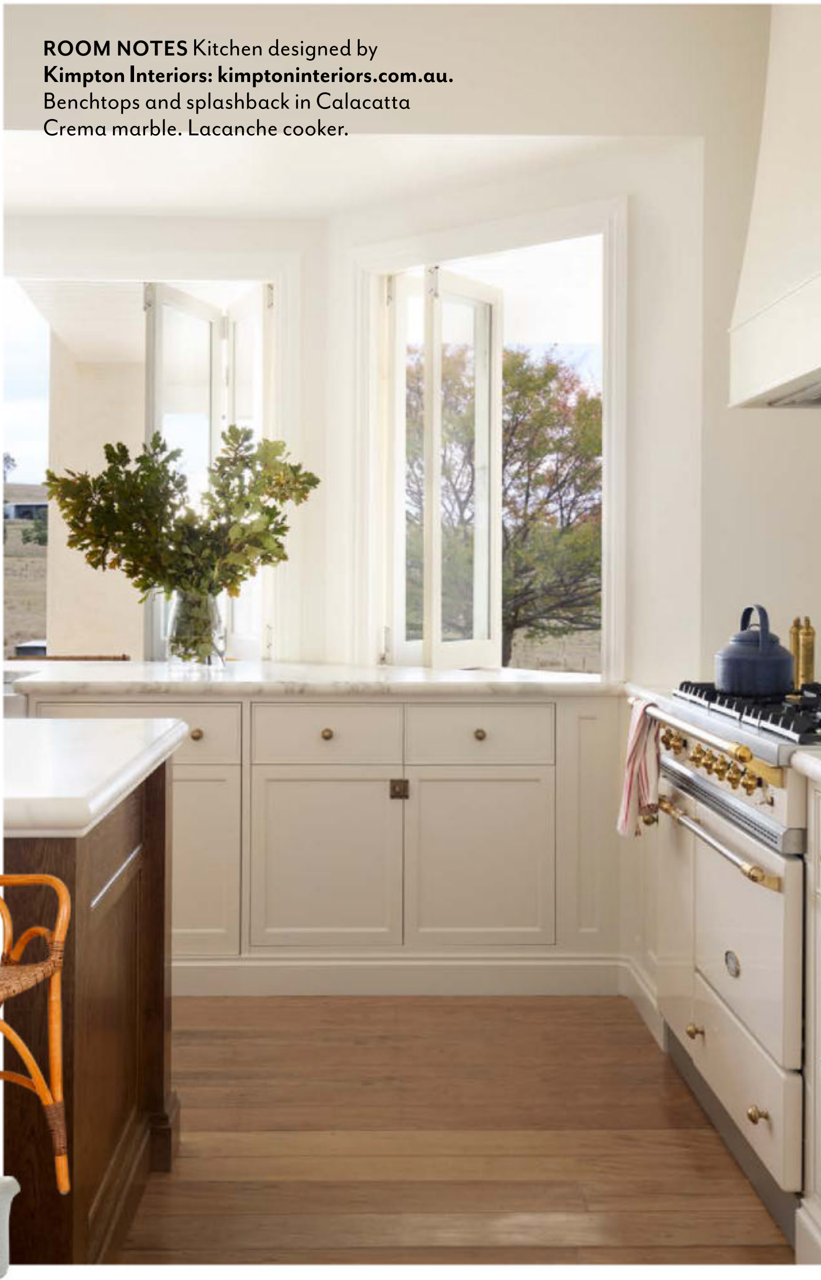

ROOM NOTES Kitchen designed by **Kimpton Interiors: kimptoninteriors.com.au.** Benchtops and splashback in Calacatta Crema marble. Lacanche cooker.

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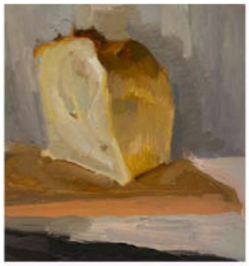

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1 'Hanging Fruits' **recipe journal**, $64, Papier. 2 'Eleanor' **platter** in Blue, $279, Emporean. 3 'Eleanor' 6-piece **dinner plate set** in Blue, $476, Emporean. 4 Gio Ponti 13-piece **dessert set**, $295, Emporean. 5 'Luella' **dining chair** in Hazelnut, $635, GlobeWest. 6 Australian House & Garden 'Esperance' **jug** in Cream, $15.95, Myer. 7 Brass **salt and pepper mill** set, $315, Emporean. 8 'Traditional' **dome**, $74.95, Freedom. 9 Bread Loaf **oil painting** by Ella Holme, $440, Cleo Collects. 10 Linen **cocktail napkins** in Red, $40, In the Roundhouse. 11 Bitossi **champagne glasses** in Clear, $295/six, Emporean.

Kitchen photograph by Prue Ruscoe.

KITCHEN TRENDS

WARM BLUES

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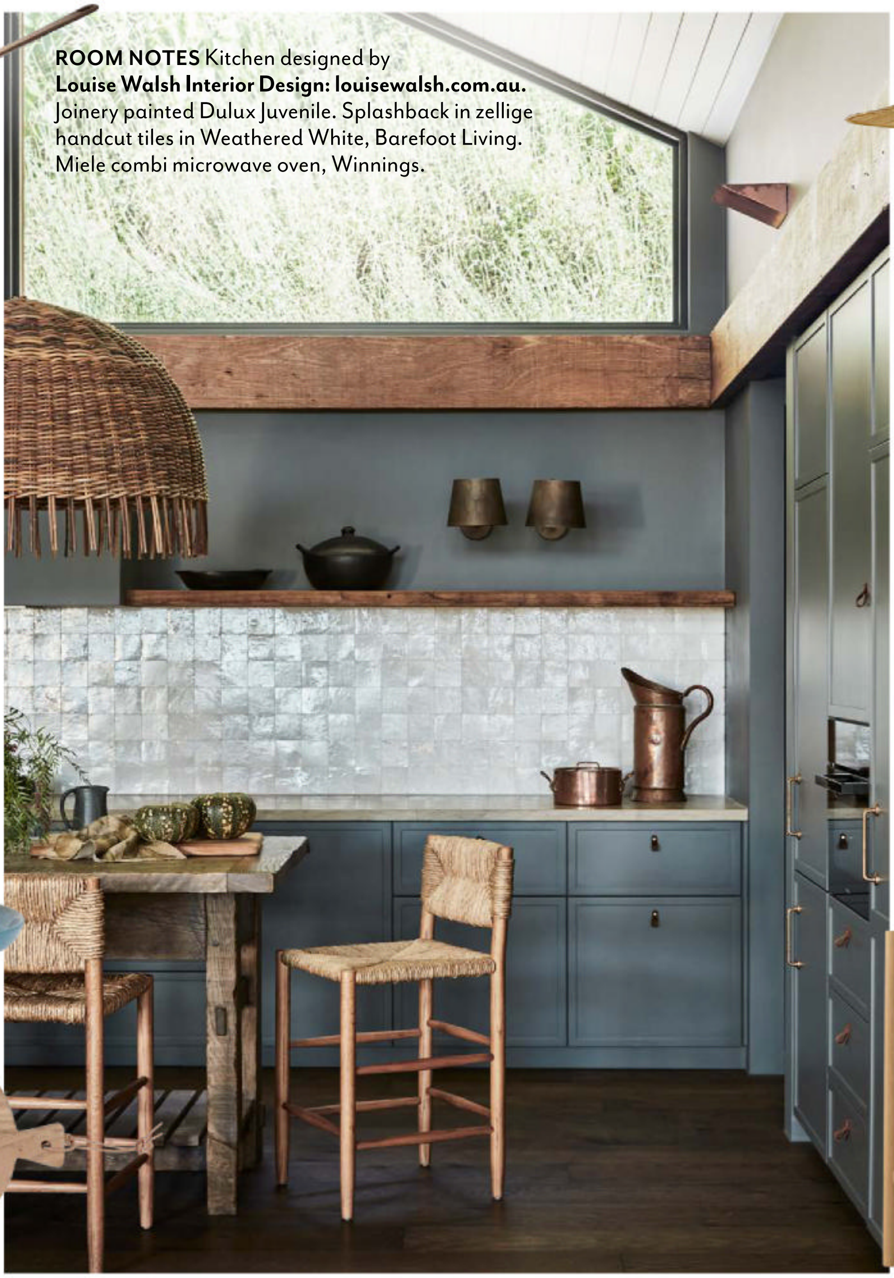
ROOM NOTES Kitchen designed by **Louise Walsh Interior Design: louisewalsh.com.au.** Joinery painted Dulux Juvenile. Splashback in zellige handcut tiles in Weathered White, Barefoot Living. Miele combi microwave oven, Winnings.

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1 Navarini Rame copper **frying pan**, $489, Emporean. 2 'Ottagono' woven raffia **bread basket**, $140, Alex and Trahanas. 3 'Barro' **butter dish** in Dark Blue, $90, Hay. 4 Navarini Rame **copper mould**, $199, Emporean. 5 Australian House & Garden 'Esperance' **side plate** in Palre Blue, $12.95, Myer. 6 Acacia **cutting board**, $69, Decor Living. 7 'Yao' **pendant light**, $664, Bisque. 8 Cast-iron round **casserole** (22cm), $550, Le Creuset. 9 Tablekraft 'Soho' 16-piece stainless-steel **cutlery set** in Bronze, $169.99, Temple & Webster. 10 'Blue' **bowl** by Nu, $10, Nu Concepts. 11 Navarini Rame copper **pasta strainer**, $549, Emporean. 12 'Morton' **bar stool** in Oak, $469, RJ Living. ▶

Kitchen photograph by Maree Homer.

KITCHEN TRENDS

LIGHT TOUCH

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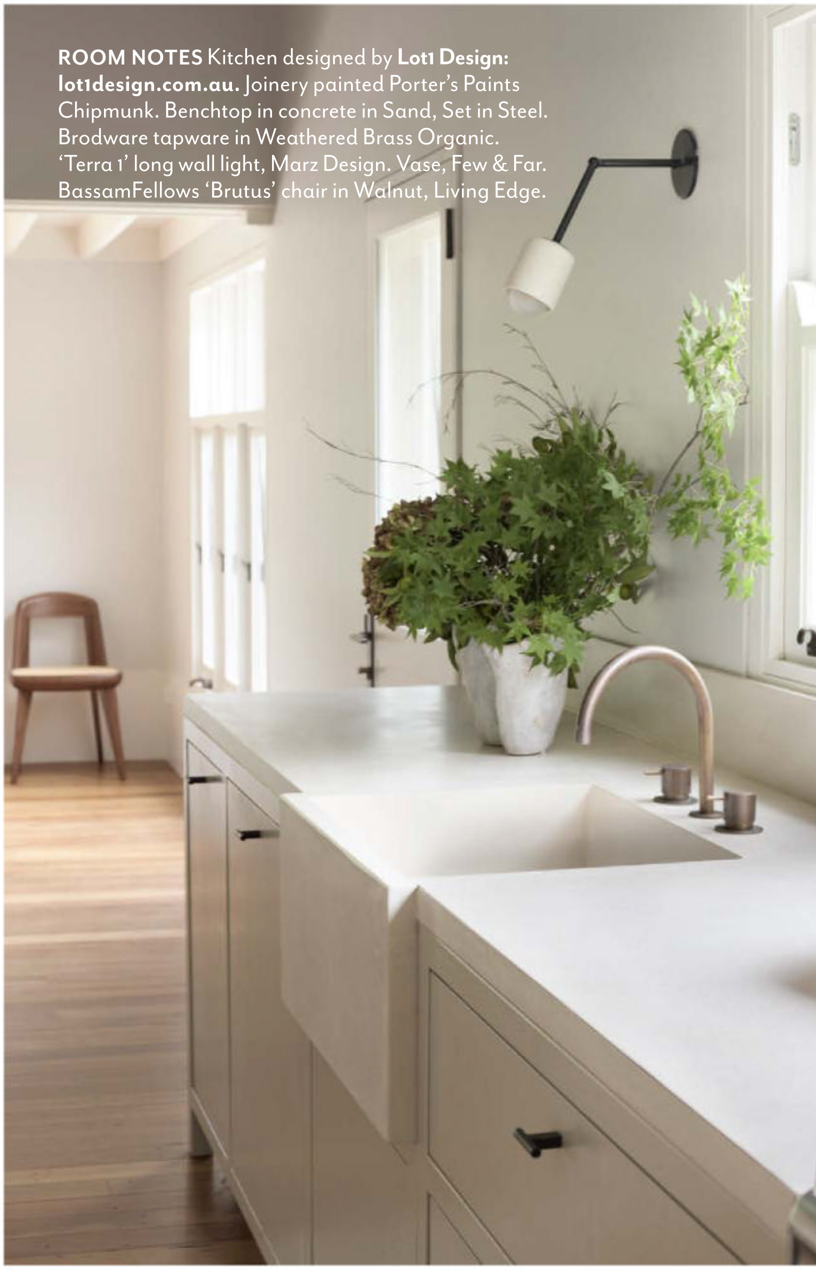
ROOM NOTES Kitchen designed by **Lot1 Design: lot1design.com.au.** Joinery painted Porter's Paints Chipmunk. Benchtop in concrete in Sand, Set in Steel. Brodware tapware in Weathered Brass Organic. 'Terra 1' long wall light, Marz Design. Vase, Few & Far. BassamFellows 'Brutus' chair in Walnut, Living Edge.

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1 Bitossi **pitcher** with foot, $75, Emporean. 2 Large 'Paradise' **bowl** in Chalk Swirl, $270, Dinosaur Designs. 3 'Nolan' brushed 16-piece **cutlery set**, $149, Country Road. 4 Ecology 'Speckle' **dinner bowl**, $19.95, Freedom. 5 'Hazel' **table runner** in Charcoal Fleck, $59.95, Country Road. 6 Australian House & Garden 'Esperance' **oval platter** in Cream, $59.95, Myer. 7 Country Road 'George' cocktail glass in Clear, $69/two, Myer. 8 'Poppy' **butter dish**, $39, Country Road. 9 'Ponti' ceramic scalloped **main plate** in Cream, $95, Alex and Trahanas. 10 Large 'Mushroom' **candle** in Light Grey, $970, Loewe. 11 'Galleria' **bar stool** in Soap Wash Rattan, $390, MCM House. ▶

Kitchen photograph by Prue Ruscoe. Styling by Tammy Miconi.

Electrolux

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Winnings WELCOME HOME

KITCHEN TRENDS

SEA GREENS & BLUES

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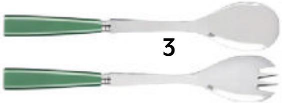
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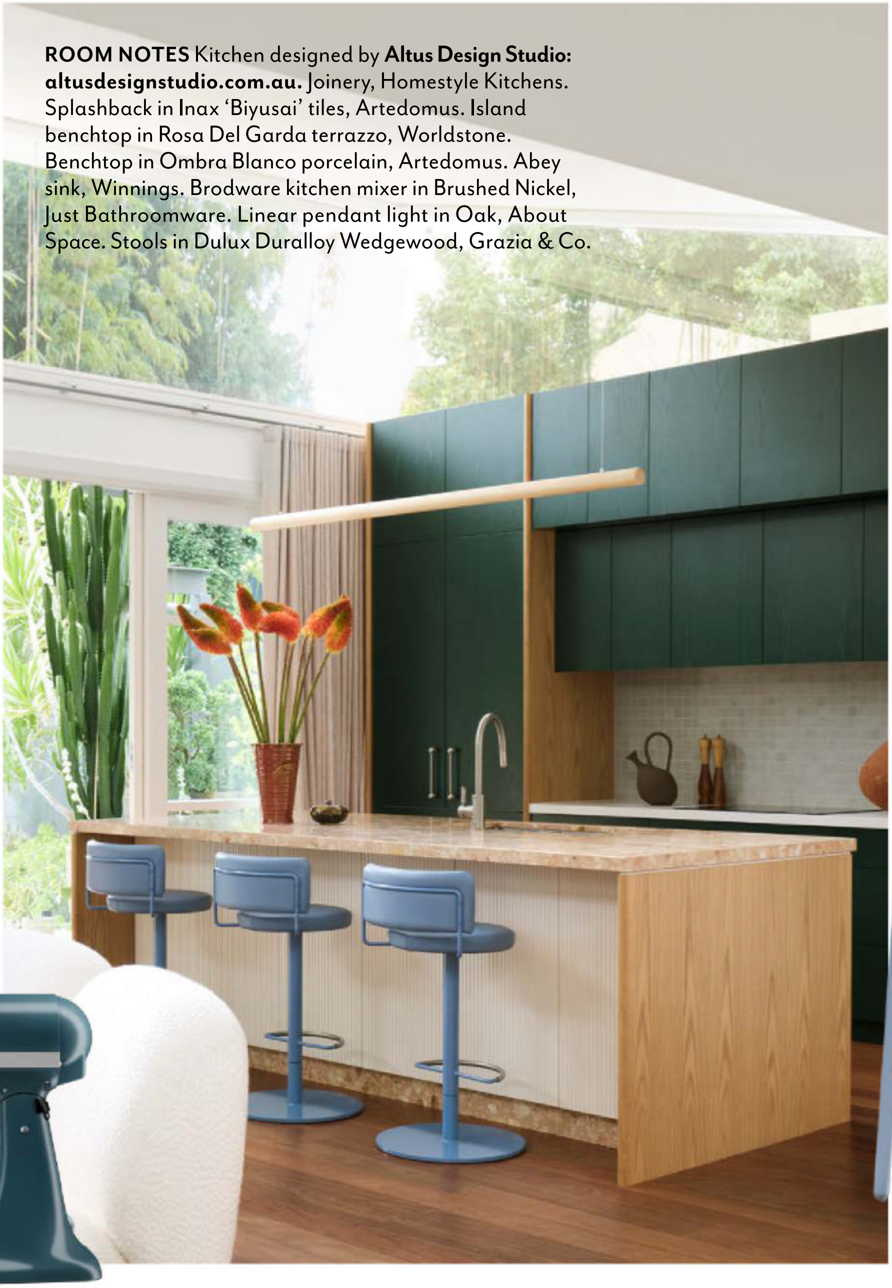

ROOM NOTES Kitchen designed by **Altus Design Studio: altusdesignstudio.com.au.** Joinery, Homestyle Kitchens. Splashback in Inax 'Biyusai' tiles, Artedomus. Island benchtop in Rosa Del Garda terrazzo, Worldstone. Benchtop in Ombra Blanco porcelain, Artedomus. Abey sink, Winnings. Brodware kitchen mixer in Brushed Nickel, Just Bathroomware. Linear pendant light in Oak, About Space. Stools in Dulux Duralloy Wedgewood, Grazia & Co.

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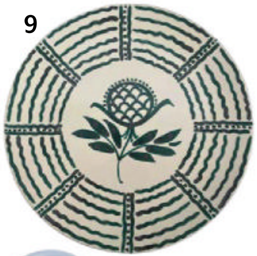
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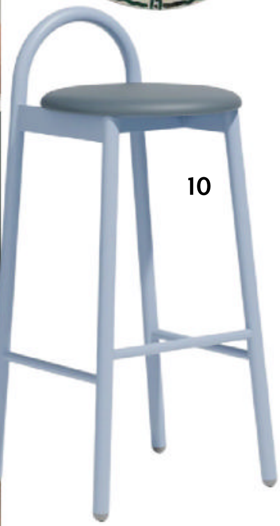
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1 Mizu 'Drift' pull-out gooseneck **mixer**, $398, Reece. **2** Vintage glass 'Toscany' **cake holder**, $240, Cleo Collects. **3** 'Icône' **salad set** in Garden Green, $108, Emporean. **4** 'Mushie' **silicone bowl** in Powder Blue, $27, The Memo. **5** Australian House & Garden acacia wood **lazy Susan** in Natural, $99, Myer. **6** 'Artisan' tilt-head **stand mixer** in Agave Satin, $799, KitchenAid. **7** Hand-blown glass **water jug** in Sea Green, $1180, Alex and Trahanas. **8** 'Barossa' **cake stand** in Natural, $179, Country Road. **9** 'Fiore' ceramic **serving plate**, $290, Alex and Trahanas. **10** 'Bobby' **bar stool** in Chalk Blue Prairie, $505, DesignBythem. ▶

Kitchen photograph by Prue Ruscoe.

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WELCOME HOME

KITCHEN TRENDS

COASTAL CHARM

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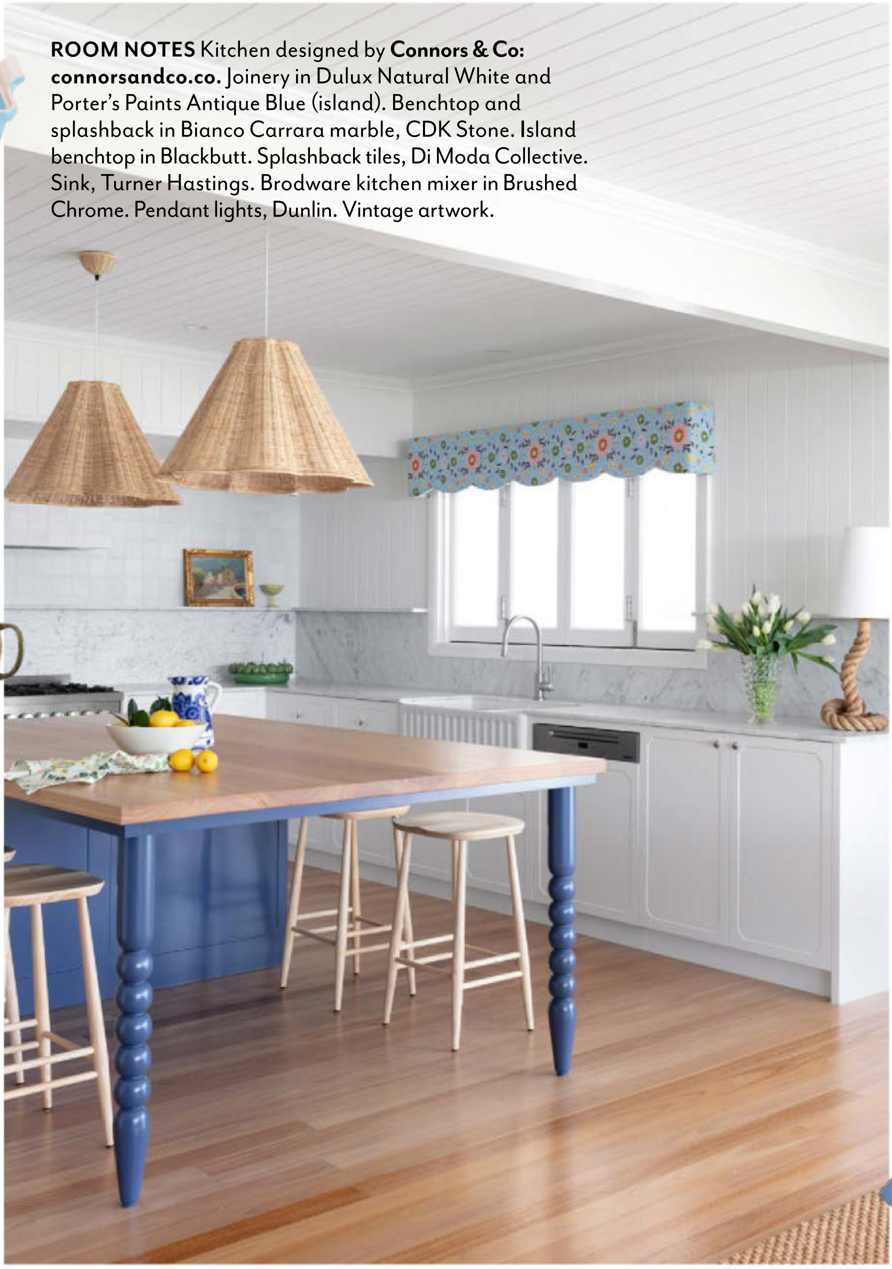
ROOM NOTES Kitchen designed by **Connors & Co: connorsandco.co.** Joinery in Dulux Natural White and Porter's Paints Antique Blue (island). Benchtop and splashback in Bianco Carrara marble, CDK Stone. Island benchtop in Blackbutt. Splashback tiles, Di Moda Collective. Sink, Turner Hastings. Brodware kitchen mixer in Brushed Chrome. Pendant lights, Dunlin. Vintage artwork.

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1 'Heritage' stoneware **dish** in Coastal Blue, $170, Le Creuset. 2 Smeg Dolce & Gabbana 'Blu Mediterraneo' espresso manual **coffee machine**, $1999, Winnings. 3 Gabrielle Crespi-style 1960s **Italian platter**, $890, Cleo Collects. 4 'Watercolour Blue' **coupes**, $99/two, Bonnie and Neil. 5 'Harvest' **baskets** in Suede, $96/two, Robert Gordon. 6 French rattan tall **table lamp**, $2550, Cleo Collects. 7 'Margot' cobalt large **salad bowl**, $195, Bonnie and Neil. 8 Anna + Nina scalloped ceramic **breakfast plate** in Multi, $22, Selfridges. 9 'L'Escargot' six-piece **cutlery set**, $99, Maison Balzac. 10 Australian House & Garden 'Esperance' wiped-edge **casserole dish**, $79.95, Myer. 11 'Fish' 1950s France **platter**, $790, Cleo Collects. ▶

Kitchen photograph by Francoise Baudet. Styling by Akansha Osmond.

BRAND PROMOTION

STILL BEAUTY

Exuding a muted warmth and sophistication, the Still palette from the Dulux Colour Forecast 2025 inspires a sense of calm.

ON WALLS: DULUX WASH & WEAR IN CLAY PIPE

SLOW AND STEADY

Set against the comforting rituals of everyday life, subdued colours in your home can act as a soothing balm for all the change and uncertainty in the world outside. For Dulux Colour Manager Lauren Treloar, the Dulux Colour Forecast 2025 Still palette harnesses the quest for peace and calm in a suite of colours inspiredby nature.

"Dulux Still has an instantly calming effect that can create a nourishing and comforting environment," she says. "The palette is subdued, with warm grey emerging as an accent against yellow-based neutrals and greens, blending with greyed-off and serene cool blues."

NATURAL INSPIRATION

Styling using the Still palette is relatively straightforward, with the use of neutrals, texture, undyed textiles, eco-friendly and non-toxic materials and finishes, plus design pieces developed for their circular sustainability. "Stone, ceramics, wood, organic cotton, linen and hemp are seen alongside patterns that feature primitive 'line work'-style patterns," says Lauren.

If you're keen to experiment with the Still palette, she suggests working with a Dulux sample pot or sticker to ensure you are confident in how the colours will work in your space. "It's amazing the degree to which light, ceiling height and space can influence colour. You'll never regret doing a few colour tests first."

WHY CHOOSE DULUX?

Choosing paint colours can take a lot of time, thought and effort. Renowned for inspiration, quality and finish, only Dulux paints guarantee a true-to-colour finish every time, inside and out.

Try the Still palette in your home with a Dulux sample pot or sticker. Visit dulux.com.au

Dulux Antique White U.S.A.®	Dulux Mellow Beige	Dulux Slight Mushroom	Dulux Clay Pipe
Dulux Clay Court	Dulux Night Hawk	Dulux Studio Cream	Dulux Grainfield
Dulux Pesto	Dulux Flooded Gum	Dulux Enterprise	Dulux Pacific Spirit

Dulux

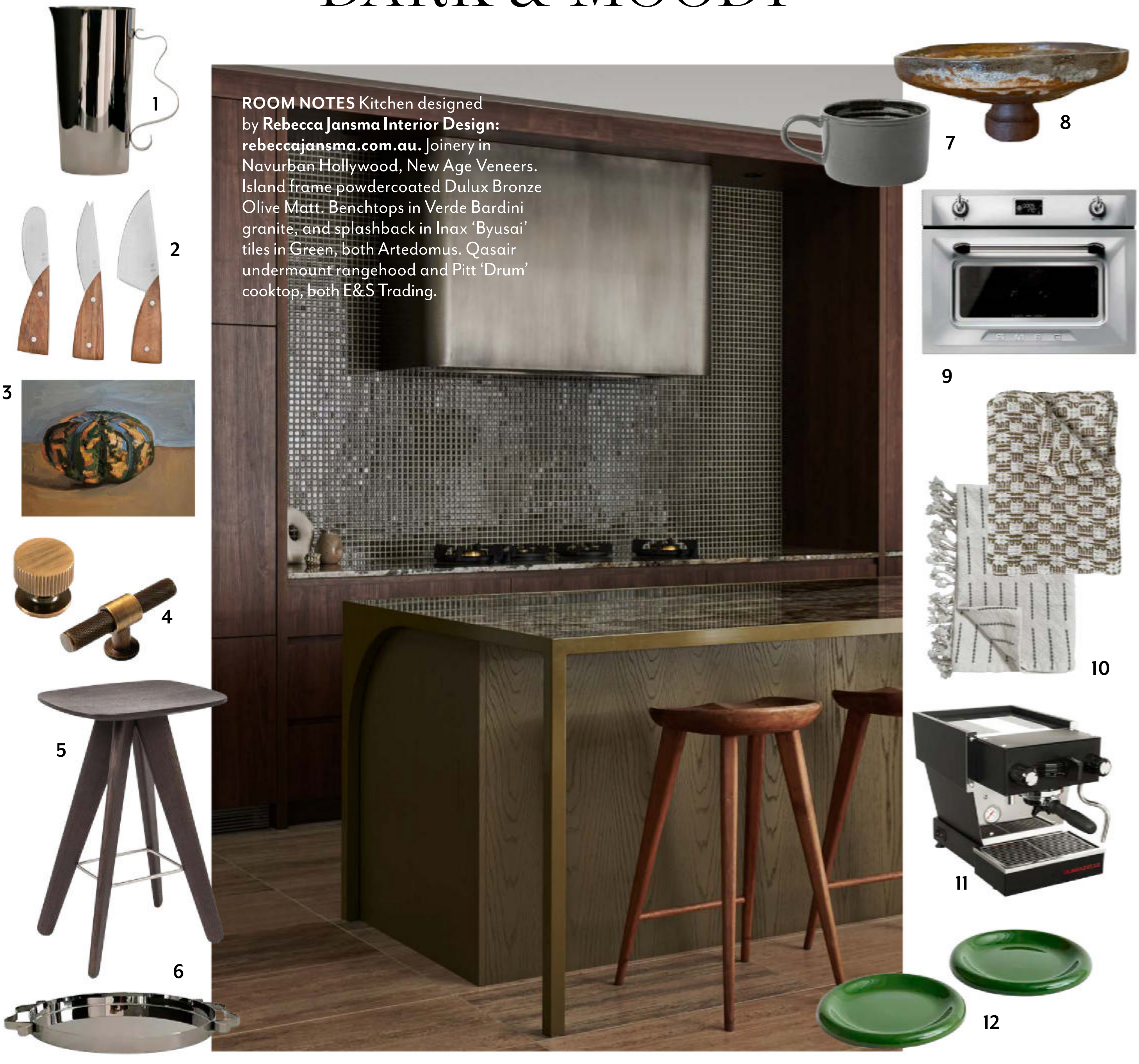
Worth doing, worth Dulux.

Find more Dulux colour inspiration and advice at dulux.com.au

#DuluxColourForecast #DuluxColourLovers IG: @duluxaus

KITCHEN TRENDS

DARK & MOODY



ROOM NOTES Kitchen designed by **Rebecca Jansma Interior Design: rebeccajansma.com.au.** Joinery in Navurban Hollywood, New Age Veneers. Island frame powdercoated Dulux Bronze Olive Matt. Benchtops in Verde Bardini granite, and splashback in Inax 'Byusai' tiles in Green, both Artedomus. Qasair undermount rangehood and Pitt 'Drum' cooktop, both E&S Trading.

1 Sophie Lou Jacobsen 'Squiggle' stainless-steel **pitcher**, $310, Selfridges. **2** 'Vela' **cheese knives**, $280/three, Alex and Trahanas. **3** *Pumpkin* **artwork** by Ella Holme, $1290, Cleo Collects. **4** Solid brass **joinery pull** and **T-knob** in Antique Bronze, POA, Freedom Kitchens. **5** 'Ics' **bar stool**, $2225, Poliform. **6** Sophie Lou Jacobsen 'Squiggle' stainless-steel **tray**, $365, Farfetch. **7** Australian House & Garden 'Esperance' **soup mug** in Charcoal, $12.95, Myer. **8** *Fruit Platter* **artwork** by Julia Freiseisen, $690, Cleo Collects. **9** Compact 'Victoria' **combi-steam oven**, $4490, Smeg. **10** 'Nora' **tea towels**, $36.95/two, Robert Gordon. **11** La Marzocco 'Linea Micra' **espresso coffee machine**, $5999, Winnings. **12** 'Barro' **plate** in Green, $96/two, Hay. **H&G**

Kitchen photograph by Cricket Saleh. Styling by Rebecca Jansma.

Design Your World

Sorrento Fabric Modular Sofa in Alpha Natural

Freedom.com.au

FREEDOM

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Entertaining

SATISFYING SWEET TREATS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Styling by Steve Cordony and Olga Lewis. Photograph by Jeremy Simons. Calligraphy by Lesley Workman.

Made TO SHARE

A symphony of flavours, The Cordony Kitchen's heavenly sweet, sticky, crunchy treats are a breeze to make.

RECIPES *Amanda Cordony* | STYLING *Steve Cordony & Olga Lewis*
PHOTOGRAPHY *Jeremy Simons*

Muesli bars

Sesame, coconut & date slice

IMPOSSIBLE COCONUT & APPLE PIE WITH PECAN CRUST

***Prep time:** 15 minutes.*
***Cooking time:** 40 minutes.*
***Serves:** 4–6.*

4 eggs, lightly beaten
½ cup (75g) plain flour, sifted
½ cup (40g) shredded coconut
¾ cup (180g) caster sugar
2 cups full-cream milk
100g unsalted butter, melted
2 Granny Smith apples, peeled, thinly-sliced
½ cup (80g) lightly packed brown sugar
½ tablespoon cinnamon powder
120g (1 cup) roughly chopped pecans

1 Preheat oven to 200°C (180°C fan-forced). Grease a round 22cm pie dish and dust with flour.
2 Place eggs, flour, coconut, caster sugar, milk and butter into a large bowl and mix until just combined. Stir through apple slices.
3 In a small bowl, mix together brown sugar, cinnamon and pecans.
4 Place pie dish on a baking tray. Pour pie mixture into pie dish, sprinkle over cinnamon-sugar and pecan mix. Place on bottom shelf and bake for 40 minutes.
5 Serve cold or warm with ice-cream. ▶

Impossible coconut & apple pie with pecan crust

MUESLI BARS

Prep time: 15 minutes + cooling.
Cooking time: 15 minutes.
Makes: 7.

2 cups (180g) rolled oats
1 cup (140g) oat flour
½ teaspoon baking soda
¼ teaspoon salt
¼ cup (40g) currants
¼ cup (40g) pepitas
½ cup (40g) shredded coconut
60ml refined coconut oil
3½ tablespoons (100ml) raw honey
1 teaspoon vanilla extract

1 Preheat oven to 200°C (180°C fan-forced). Grease and line a 28x20cm baking tray with baking paper.
2 Place oats, oat flour, baking soda, salt, currants, pepitas, coconut, coconut oil, honey and vanilla in a large bowl. Mix until well combined.
3 Press mixture firmly and evenly onto baking tray. Bake for 15 minutes until golden on top. Cool for 15 minutes, then press down evenly with the base of a measuring cup.
4 Place in the fridge for at least 1 hour before slicing into 9 x 5.5cm bars (cut out 3 bars vertically and 4 horizontally). Store in the fridge or freezer.

SESAME, COCONUT & DATE SLICE

Prep time: 15 minutes.
Cooking time: 3 minutes.
Makes: 10.

300g dates, pitted
1 tablespoon (20ml) orange blossom water
1 cup (75g) shredded coconut
150g sesame seeds
⅓ cup (120ml) honey

1 Line a 22x14cm loaf pan with baking paper, leaving an overhang of 10cm.
2 Place dates, orange blossom water and coconut in a food processor. Process on high for 1 ½ minutes until a paste forms.
3 In a medium frying pan, toast sesame seeds over medium heat, stirring constantly, until light brown and fragrant. Remove from heat and stir through honey.
4 Add sesame seeds and honey to date mixture in food processor and pulse until combined. Transfer mixture to tray and press down firmly and evenly.
5 Fold overhanging baking paper over the top and place in fridge for 1 hour, then slice into 2cm fingers. Store in an airtight container in the fridge for up to 2 weeks.

UPSIDE-DOWN FIG, STRACCIATELLA & CHOCOLATE CAKE

Prep time: 20 minutes + cooling.
Cooking time: 50 minutes.
Serves: 4–6.

1 tablespoon brown sugar
7 fresh figs cut in half, stem removed
200g unsalted butter, softened
⅔ cup (130g) firmly packed brown sugar
4 large free-range eggs, room temperature
1 ½ cups (200g) plain flour, sifted
1 teaspoon baking powder
½ cup (80g) 70% dark chocolate buttons
½ cup (80g) stracciatella cheese
1 chopped fresh fig, ¼ cup finely chopped dark chocolate, and 1 tablespoon honey, to serve

1 Preheat oven to 160°C fan-forced. Grease and line a 22cm round cake tin.
2 Sprinkle 1 tablespoon of the brown sugar over base of cake tin. Spread fig halves cut-side down evenly over base in a circular pattern.
3 In a stand mixer, cream butter and sugar on medium speed for about 1 minute, scraping down sides halfway. Add one egg at a time, beating on low to combine before adding the next egg. Scrape down sides in between each addition.
4 Add flour and baking powder, and lightly whisk until just combined. Using a spoon or spatula, gently fold in the chocolate and stracciatella, ensuring some curd shreds remain intact.
5 Evenly dollop mixture onto figs in cake tin and smooth top. Bake on the bottom shelf for 50 minutes. A skewer inserted in the middle will come out clean when cooked.
6 Cool cake for 15 minutes before turning out onto a platter. Top with chopped fresh fig, chocolate and honey. **H&G**

“Delicious *homemade* treats with the perfect blend of *sweetness and crunch.*”

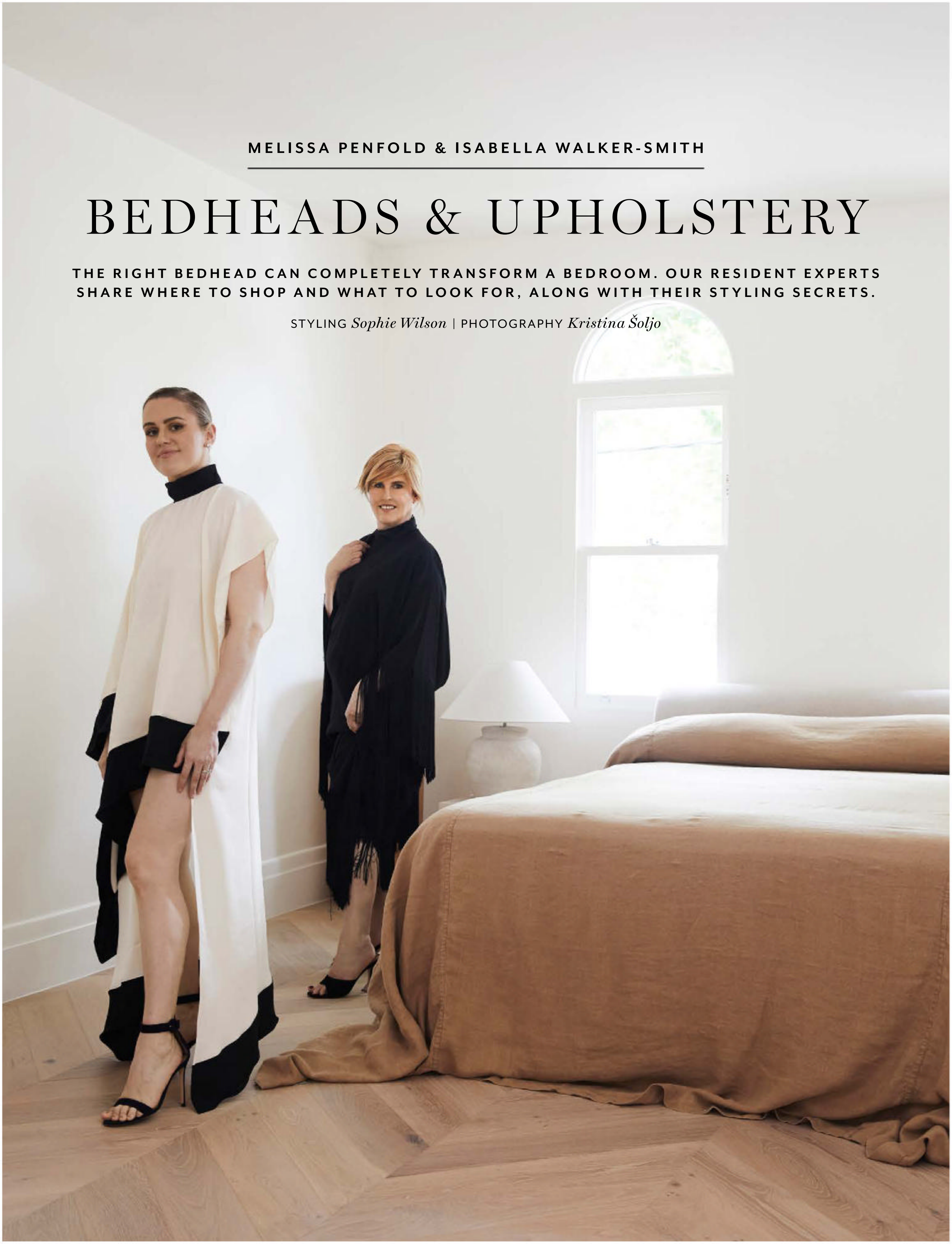
Upside-down fig, stracciatella & chocolate cake

MELISSA PENFOLD & ISABELLA WALKER-SMITH

BEDHEADS & UPHOLSTERY

THE RIGHT BEDHEAD CAN COMPLETELY TRANSFORM A BEDROOM. OUR RESIDENT EXPERTS SHARE WHERE TO SHOP AND WHAT TO LOOK FOR, ALONG WITH THEIR STYLING SECRETS.

STYLING *Sophie Wilson* | PHOTOGRAPHY *Kristina Šoljo*



Hair and make-up by Michelle Cox.

When you're designing a bedroom, there's no piece of furniture more important than a bed with a proper bedhead. It sets the scene for a good night's sleep. Bedheads are the perfect canvas for creating a soothing nest with layered linens and pillows. The right bedhead helps pull together a bedroom scheme, whether you use it to introduce a note of colour and pattern to a more muted room, or to bring together a riot of textiles.

So how to choose? The bedhead you select depends on factors such as the architecture of the room and your personal taste, but we are firm believers that bigger is better; even in small spaces.

It seems counterintuitive, but the soaring height of a tall bedhead can make a small bedroom feel larger, and it will certainly up the grandness factor. Upholstered designs make a room feel cosy and comfortable, and by filling a wall with a bedhead, you can give a tight space a minimalist, sophisticated look.

When making design decisions, however, usability comes first. Beyond aesthetics, it's important to remember that a bedhead fulfils a practical function by providing comfort. Regardless of how large and elaborate the piece is, proportions and material choice should always be at the core of the design. A good standard bedhead rises 122cm to 127cm from the floor. Modern platform designs can be lower, between 111cm and 117cm. Typically, the bedhead should extend about 60 to 70cm from the top of the mattress.

In this month's Little Black Book we bring you our favourite bedheads in a variety of shapes, taking into account comfort and style, durability, craftsmanship and hardwearing fabrics.

In an industry that prizes sober sophistication, there's a bedhead to suit all tastes. Bespoke versions are an investment. so choosing the right upholstery fabric is key. To that end, we've listed our favourites. Choosing a bedhead is the chance to have some creative fun.

BEDHEADS

ALFRESCO EMPORIUM

The Queen Anne shaping of the curvy, romantic new Australian-made custom bedhead 'Alexia' is a dramatic statement piece in a tropical palm fabric. One of the decorative joys of a bedhead like this is that you can add pattern to your bedroom decor. You can go wild with a flamboyant fabric, which won't overstimulate the eye and interrupt sleep, as you won't be looking at it when you're in bed. For a tamer look, the same bedhead is available in rattan to order, see 'Dahlia'. Custom orders take three weeks. Prices start at $1095. *alfrescoemporium.com.au*

BEDSAHEAD

Since 2011, the Australian-owned family company has been hand-upholstering bedheads at its Sydney workshop, offering more than 60 designs in dozens of shapes and sizes using locally sourced materials. ▶

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1 'Alexia' **bedhead** in Le Palm fabric, $2599/queen, Alfresco Emporium. **2** 'Chloe' **bedhead**, POA, Bonne Nuit Bedheads. **3** 'Lilly' **bedhead**, from $1870/queen, BedsAHead. **4** 'Parisian Loft' **bedhead** in Soleil Sheepskin Ivory, $1995/queen, Coco Republic. **5** 'Premier' **winged bedhead**, $999/queen, Domayne. **OPPOSITE** Isabella and Melissa at the serene and minimal Cultiver store in Woollahra, NSW, designed by Phoebe Nicol.

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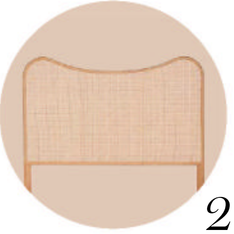
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1 'Legri' **bed**, from $10,690, Fanuli. **2** 'Kamalia' **bedhead**, $799/queen, Freedom. **3** 'Cosette' **bedhead**, $999, Harvey Norman. **4** 'Louis' **bedhead**, from $1440/queen, Heatherly Design. **5** 'Jasper' **bed**, from $3790, King Living. **OPPOSITE** B&B Italia 'Husk' **custom bedhead**, POA, Space.

Choose from winged, curved, panelled, tufted, buttoned and bordered forms, in rich visual textures of velvet, linen, leather, suede or boucle and endless colour options. We love 'Lilly', a chic and plush tall number with dramatic curvature and piped edges, as well as 'Finley' and 'Evie'. Prices start at $870. *bedsahead.com.au*

BONNE NUIT BEDHEADS

A company that boasts top-quality craftsmanship with a fine finish and all hand-upholstered in Australia. Padded contemporary designs like 'Chloe', 'Belle' and 'Louis' provide a beautiful and supportive spot to rest both your head and shoulders, and they come in a comprehensive range of colours and fabric finishes to suit most styles. Go bold with darker hues including Rainforest, Peacock and Maritime Blue, or keep it calm with Dove, Mellow or Dusky Pink. The appeal of the undulating upholstered curves of 'Chloe' are obvious: its ripples are seductive, flirtatious and light-hearted. It's dopamine decorating in troubling times – a concept with a vibrant life on social media. With its roundness and four ripples along the top, the 'Chloe' occupies a space with confidence. *@Bonnenuitbedheads*

COCO REPUBLIC

The quiet luxury trend is ushering into residential bedrooms the kind of elegant bedheads you'll find here. Dramatic without being loud, there are 15 beautiful designs. Low to high, wing to button with hand-applied nail detail, such as 'Parisian Loft', 'Burlington' and 'Ashford', in linen blends, velvet or boucle. Also, lovely low designs like 'Atelier', 'Bastien', 'Cannes', 'Gilles' and 'Manhattan', which are inherently intimate and offer a quiet confidence to any space. Cosiness rarely looks so elegant. Coco also has gorgeous beds with storage. *cocorepublic.com.au*

CREATE ESTATE

Three Bird Renovations get their bedheads here. If you like a minimalist look but also want a bit of luxury, Create Estate's offerings marry both with ease. There are 30 hip designs, customisable in hundreds of fabric options (linen, boucle, velvet, chenille, ticking, checks, faux leather) with a focus on quality, longevity and sustainable production from its established factory in Queensland. The 'Casa' bedhead gets our top vote for its timeless shape that won't look out of place in any interior scheme. For boutique-hotel style, we love 'Dune', 'Bondi', 'Ace' and 'Burleigh'. For contemporary simple silhouettes, seek out 'Mimi', 'Sculpt', 'Lola', 'Old Faithful' or take a look at the low, long 'Noosa' bedhead, nearly as wide as a bedroom wall, which features plush panelling. Isabella's bedroom in her family's longtime beach house at Noosa had this type of bedhead to make the rooms seem larger. It's a look that likely originated in the sort of luxury hotels that are custom-furnished. Prices start at $1070. *createestate.com.au*

DOMAYNE

A timeless buttoned bedhead is perfect for adding some hotel chic to your room. Look to classic beds such as 'Brianna', 'Montauk', 'Hadley', 'Premier' and 'Halo' with plush, padded panelling and deep borders with sparing detail on headboards. Domayne reacts quickly to new trends. Most bedheads boast a good height from the mattress to the top of the headboard, which gives a nice presence and an added sense of opulence. *domayne.com.au*

FANULI

Fanuli's highly customisable, meticulously constructed Australian-made beds are great for those seeking quality with a tailored, modern look and handcrafted timber frames. We're told the 'Axil' is a top seller. Available in any fabric, leather, colour or weave imaginable. Also, find fabulous Italian Flexform beds, which are used in some of the world's best projects, including favourites such as 'Groundpiece Slim', 'Feelgood', 'Mood', 'Magnum' and 'Newbridge'. Plus, Italian-made Bonaldo beds such as 'Cuff' and 'River' or the MD House range of stunners such as 'Legri', 'Fluff' and 'Flex'. *fanuli.com.au*

FREEDOM

Contemporary ready-made designs that give some of the customised bedheads a run for their money. On offer is just about every designer look with affordable pieces that make achieving a decorative bedroom simple. Our picks include 'Brislington', ▶

Photograph (opposite) courtesy of Space.

SPACE
Invite high design into your bedroom, with more than 60 Italian handmade beds by heavy-hitters such as B&B Italia, Maxalto, Living Divani, Baxter, Arflex, Giorgetti; many as thoughtfully designed as a full-scale building. Created by some of the world's top design names like Mario Bellini, Antonio Citterio, Piero Lissoni, Carlo Colombo, Christophe Delcourt and Paola Navone, many of the beds have become paeans to enhancing the beauty and comfort of everyday life, with a move towards simple geometry and squishy, overstuffed forms. It's the 'Tufty', 'Heaven', 'Extrasoft' and 'Husk' that outsell everything worldwide. *spacefurniture.com.au* ▶

"A bedhead that extends wider than the base and beyond really envelops you."

“The right bedhead
pulls together
a bedroom scheme,
whether you use it to
introduce colour
to a muted room
or to bring together
a riot of textiles.”

Styling by Sophie Wilson. Photograph by Kristina Šoljo.

'Manhica', 'Marsella', and 'Kamalia', a timeless rattan curved design. Prices start at $799. A good range of beds, too. *freedom.com.au*

HEATHERLY DESIGN

The meticulously crafted bedheads from this Melbourne-based workshop will add a bespoke and enduring focal point to a bedroom. Whether you're after something simple or more detailed with curves, wingbacks, buttons or borders, there are 40 designs on offer, customisable in more than 100 fabric choices. Prices start at $1440. Look to the 'Alice', 'Genevieve' and 'Empire' for slightly ornate silhouettes – try these in striped or floral linen. For contemporary classics, we love 'Louis', 'Rupert' and 'Zara' in velvet, boucle or felt. The handful of ready-made designs are also an easy choice. *heatherlydesign.com.au*

KING LIVING

If you love King Living sofas, you're in luck. You can get contemporary and innovative tailored beds in some of King's most-loved designs such as 'Jasper' or 'Delta Coast'. Also, 'Serenade'. Go for a full-height, high-back profile or beds with lower headboards in simplified, geometric, clean-cut and modern shapes, where the emphasis is on comfort, luxury and softness. Many incorporate storage. There's a huge range of fabrics to choose from and you can expect a fine finish in whichever material you choose. *kingliving.com.au*

HARVEY NORMAN

Just about everything to do with beds with plenty of good-value exclusives. Choose from all kinds of looks and materials, from modern silhouettes to country farmhouse styles, for city, country and beach houses in timber, metal and fabric. Favourites? 'Barney', 'Sadie', 'Luke', 'Adelle', 'Cosette', 'Blair', 'Thymes', and 'Orion'. *harveynorman.com.au*

LANDHOME

A secret source for custom, sustainable bedheads that merge modern and traditional. Ten designs that can fit in with any interior, used by top Australian designer Chloe Matters of Matters + Made. Made with hardwood frames, thick foam padding and upholstered in your fabric of choice. We recommend 'Roddis', 'Sinton', 'Douglas', 'Arnell', 'Allingham', 'Coulton', 'Morahan', 'Williams' and 'Jones' in Walter G fabrics as well as all kinds of plains, prints, checks, stripes and ikats. Many are softer takes on the sharp corners of the past, with organic silhouettes. *landhome.com.au*

McMULLIN

For five-star accommodation at home, we swear by the quintessentially Australian, modern bedheads here. Choose from seven designs that are completely customisable, including timeless, floor-length, bestsellers in gorgeous shapes with gentle curves, 'Beatrix', 'Saatchi', and 'Straight Milk'. Each can be tailored to your exact specifications using heavy-weave, sandy-coloured linens, accented with black piping and designed to be fitted flush against the wall without any wobbles. Other pretties include 'Lola', 'Barnaby' and new release, 'Maude'. Prices start at $999. *mcmullinandco.com*

MERCI MAISON

Modern glam, luxuriously tall and extra sturdy by design, these are custom statement bedheads with boutique-hotel style. Bedtime bookworms are going to love the 'Capri' and 'Etienne', perfect for night-time reading, breakfast in bed and dozing. Both boast a Mediterranean vibe, something extra with scale, in classic stripes of navy or sage that can easily act as the focal point for a main bedroom and sometimes be all the boom-pow you need. And don't miss a glam new release, the French-made, retro-inspired, 'Isabella'. Matching valances on request. *mercimaison.com*

OZ DESIGN

Dramatic without being loud, rattan bedheads and beds are becoming increasingly popular as a way to convey timelessness. When you want to emulate that high-end boutique beach hotel feel in your bedroom, these are a great option. The rattan mango wood bedheads can give blah rooms textural interest. *ozdesignfurniture.com.au* ▶

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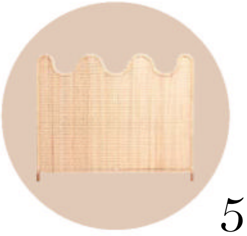
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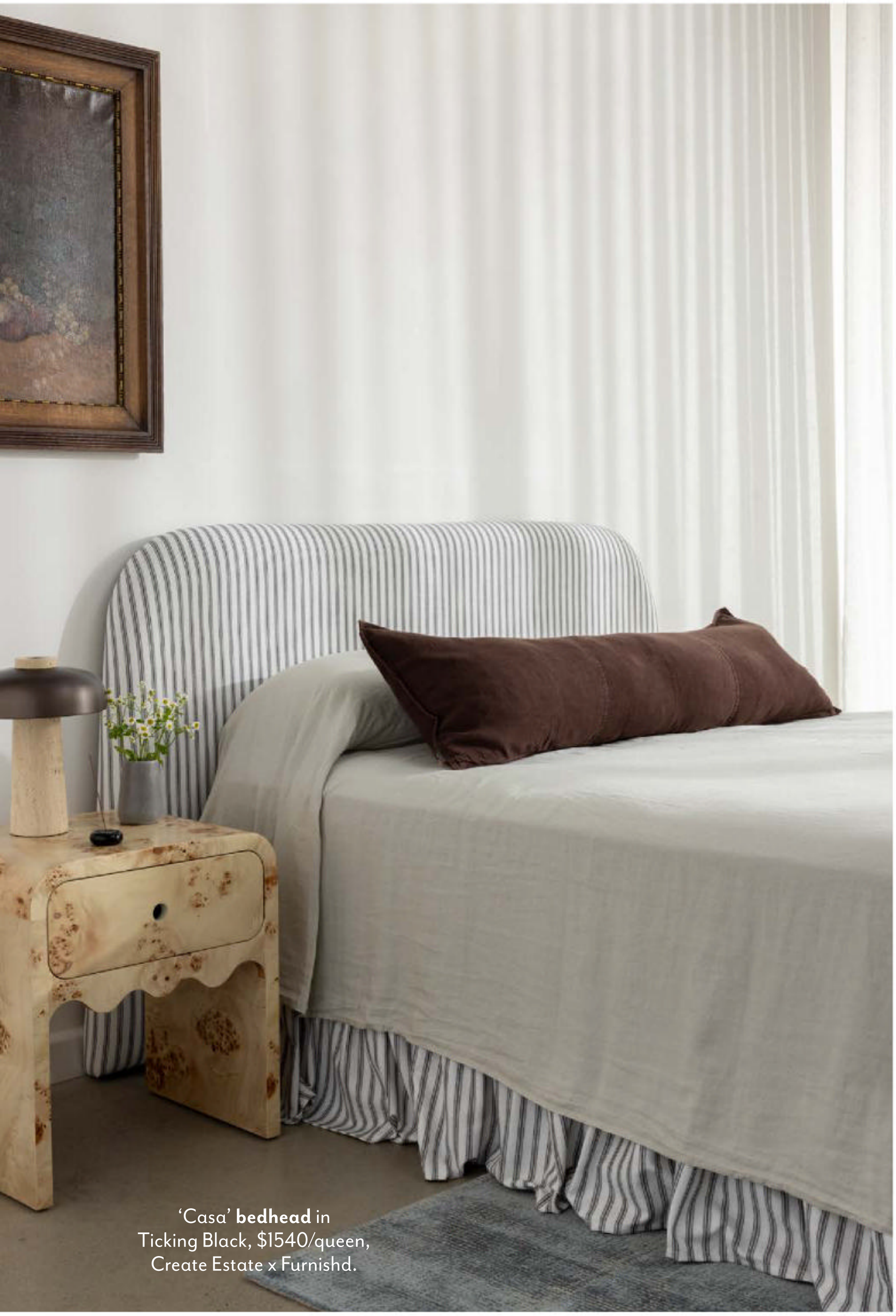
1 'Roddis' **bedhead** in Olive Pinstripe, $3190/queen, Landhome. **2** 'Isabella' **bedhead**, $2000/queen, Merci Maison. **3** 'Rever' **bed**, $16,585 (mattress not included), Poliform. **4** 'Ellis' **bedhead**, from $1499, McMullin. **5** 'Delara' **bedhead**, $1490, Worn. **OPPOSITE** Heavyweight **linen bedcover** in Sand, $680, Cultiver. **Bedhead** by Phoebe Nicol at the Cultiver, Woollahra, store.

“Measure up properly before you buy and make sure the bedhead works with your bed.”



‘Casa’ **bedhead** in Ticking Black, $1540/queen, Create Estate x Furnishd.

POLIFORM

Poliform do some of the best, most prestigious bed names in the world, loved by international architects and backed by impressive warranties. For beds to sweep you to dreamland, check ‘Dream’, ‘Rever’, ‘Chloe’, and ‘Kelly’ by Carlo Colombo, Rodolfo Dordoni, and Marcel Wanders. They are a softer more whimsical take on minimalism and in recent years have turned away from sharp-cornered austerity toward the more organic silhouettes of the circle and the arch. Prices start at $10,970 for bed and bedhead. *poliformaustralia.com.au*

RJ LIVING

RJ makes fabulous bedheads with a low-key luxe vibe. Whether you go with the corduroy or boutique-weave velvet upholstery that is both soft and durable, which is vital given its everyday (and night) use, the plush, contemporary bedheads prove perfectly luxurious and look much more expensive than they are. We love the Cocoa colourway or Opal Forest, in particular. Find minimalist rectangle bedheads, half moons, subtle curved forms, in wall-mounted or standalone interactions that boast a fuss-free form with deep padding. Look for ‘Snug’, ‘Plush’, ‘Easton’, ‘Hazel’, ‘Bowey’, or ‘Linear’ in oak. Prices start at $899. *rjliving.com.au*

WORN

The whimsical ‘Delara’ bedhead is worth bookmarking for those wanting to add a cheerful or playful note. It’s handwoven from natural and untreated plant fibres – grown in regenerative plantations – around a durable powdercoated steel frame. A hidden wall bracket makes sure the bedhead is fixed securely with no wiggling. *wornstore.com.au* ▶

Photograph by Dylan James Lark, courtesy of Create Estate.

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1 Velvet fluted custom **bedhead**, POA, Ambience Upholstery. **2** Custom **bedhead**, POA, Intoo. **3** 'Boston' **bedhead**, POA, Jai Jai Upholstery Artisans. **4** Custom **bedhead** and **upholstery**,POA, Montique. **5** 'George' **bedhead**, POA, Wills Bisgrove.

UPHOLSTERY

AMBIENCE UPHOLSTERY

Owner David Money is methodical and meticulous about his work, and his bedheads are exceptional. His attention to detail makes it a costlier service, but you'll have a bedhead that is for keeps. *@ambienceupholstery*

INTOO

The expert French-trained upholsterer Eric Ahlfors can custom-make bedheads to any size and specification, which are true works of art using traditional methods. The fabrics change but the techniques don't. Used by Thomas Hamel, Arent&Pyke, Decus, Phoebe Nicol and Briony Fitzgerald. *intoo.com.au*

JADE UPHOLSTERY

In business since 1984, Derek March and his skilled team do all sorts of upholstery for hotels, antique dealers and designers including Merivale's soft furnishings for Totti's, Fred's, Bert's, Mimi's, Lorne Hotel Bistro, and The Paddington. Also, upholstery for Solotel's Albion Hotel, Clock Hotel, The Golden Sheaf, Paddo Inn, Abercrombie, House Bar, and Opera Bar. Lovely work with bedheads. Commissioning a completely bespoke design allows total creative freedom, which certainly packs a decorative punch. *jadeupholstery.com.au*

JAI JAI UPHOLSTERY ARTISANS

The concept of a well-made bedhead takes on new meaning in the hands of Melbourne-based Jai Jai Artisans. You'll be spoilt for choice with designs like 'Atlanta', 'Boston', 'San Fran', 'Bonnie', 'Batson', 'Houston', 'Jersey', 'Georgia', 'Maddison', and 'Seattle'. Kate Walker and The Classic Outfitter are fans. *jaijai.com.au*

> "Increasingly, bedheads are treated as fitted furniture moving beyond the conventional constraints of the bed's dimensions to extend full height and even occupy the entire wall."

MONTIQUE

The longtime supplier to David Jones has been specialising in making upholstered furniture the way since the 1960s. An experienced team handmakes beautiful bedheads to terrifically high standards from its Leichhardt workroom. Repeat clients include Lynda Kerry and Cameron Kimber. Trade only. *montique.com.au*

WILLS BISGROVE

Leading Australian interior designers swear by this established company for bedheads. You'll have to order through your decorator or upholsterer, but you can't go past its sophisticated English country-house designs, which big names like Cameron Kimber, Adelaide Bragg, Anna Spiro, Charlotte Coote and Hecker Guthrie use for clients and their own homes. Look at 'Anne', 'Boston', Harris, 'George', 'Sidney' and 'Turin'. *willsfurniture.com.au* **H&G**

Next month
PAINT & WALLPAPER

OUTDOOR LIVING
BY LUXAFLEX WINDOW COVERINGS
Works with Apple HomeKit
works with the Google Assistant
WORKS WITH amazon alexa

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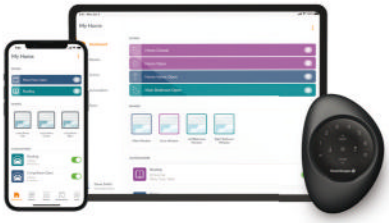

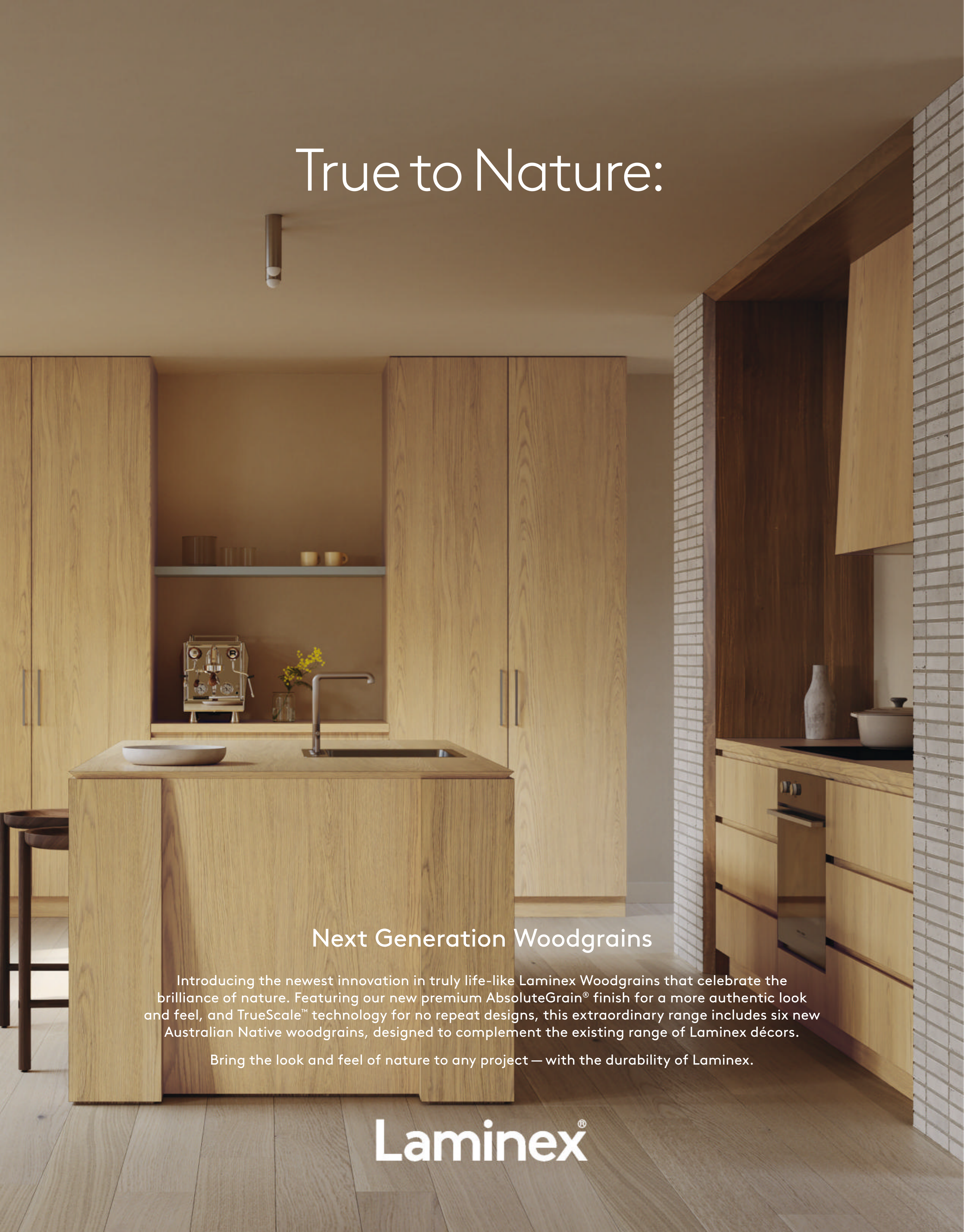

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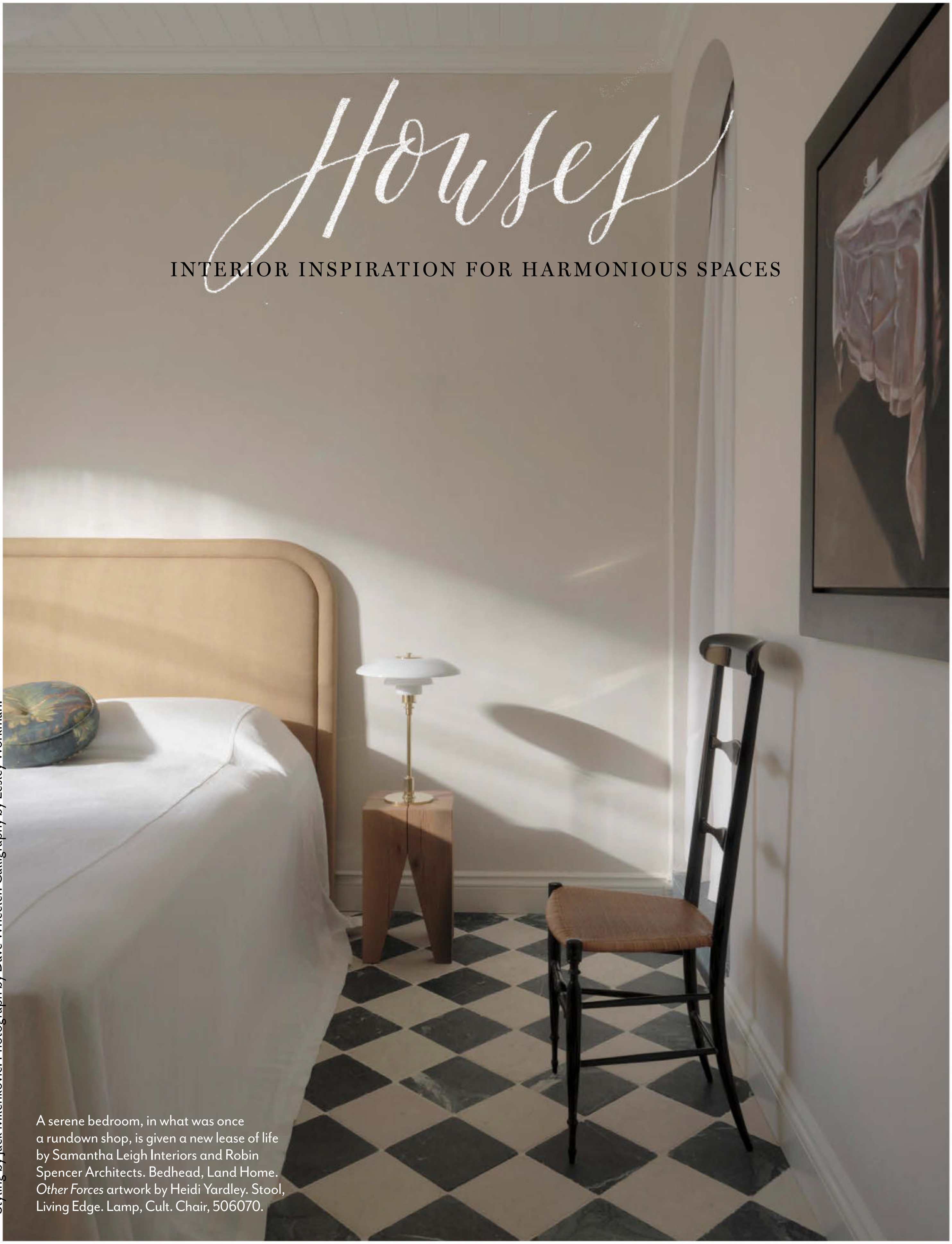
Houses

INTERIOR INSPIRATION FOR HARMONIOUS SPACES



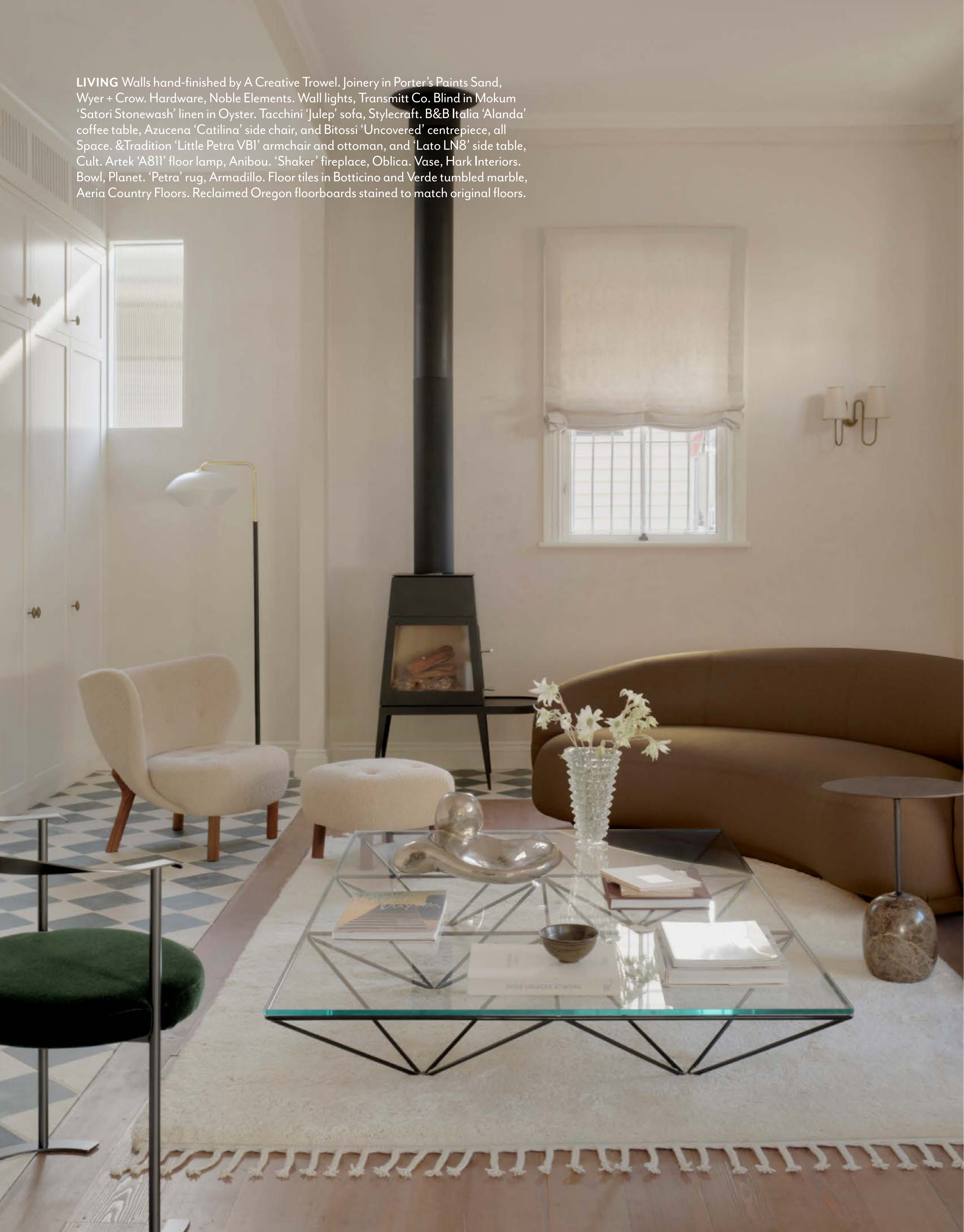
A serene bedroom, in what was once a rundown shop, is given a new lease of life by Samantha Leigh Interiors and Robin Spencer Architects. Bedhead, Land Home. *Other Forces* artwork by Heidi Yardley. Stool, Living Edge. Lamp, Cult. Chair, 506070.

Styling by Jack Milenkovic. Photograph by Dave Wheeler. Calligraphy by Lesley Workman.

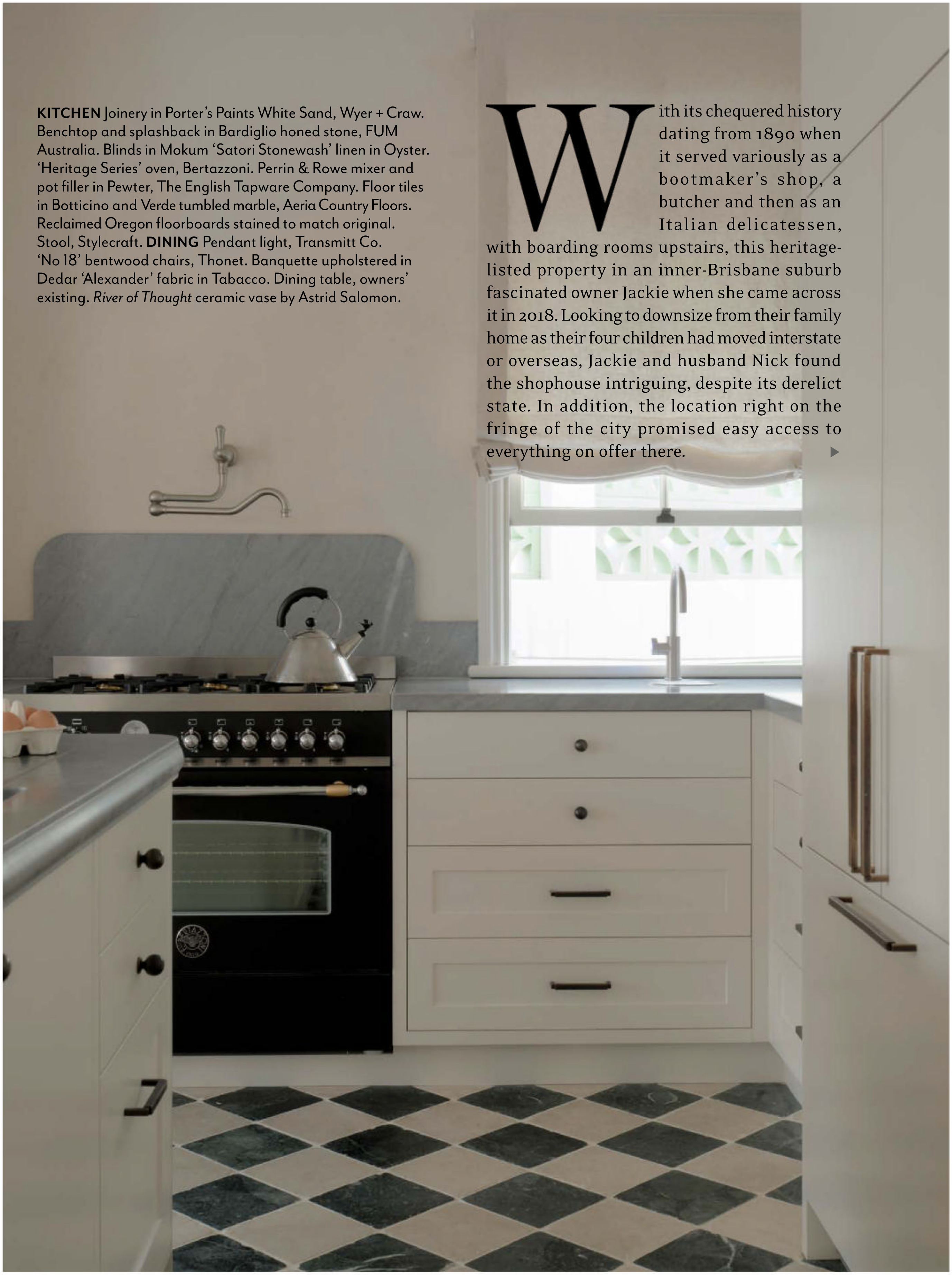
HERITAGE CHARM

A downsizing couple find an unlikely home on a busy inner Brisbane street corner, transforming a derelict shophouse with timeless interiors.

STORY *Judy Pascoe* | STYLING *Jack Milenkovic* | PHOTOGRAPHY *Dave Wheeler*



LIVING Walls hand-finished by A Creative Trowel. Joinery in Porter's Paints Sand, Wyer + Crow. Hardware, Noble Elements. Wall lights, Transmitt Co. Blind in Mokum 'Satori Stonewash' linen in Oyster. Tacchini 'Julep' sofa, Stylecraft. B&B Italia 'Alanda' coffee table, Azucena 'Catilina' side chair, and Bitossi 'Uncovered' centrepiece, all Space. &Tradition 'Little Petra VB1' armchair and ottoman, and 'Lato LN8' side table, Cult. Artek 'A811' floor lamp, Anibou. 'Shaker' fireplace, Oblica. Vase, Hark Interiors. Bowl, Planet. 'Petra' rug, Armadillo. Floor tiles in Botticino and Verde tumbled marble, Aeria Country Floors. Reclaimed Oregon floorboards stained to match original floors.



KITCHEN Joinery in Porter's Paints White Sand, Wyer + Craw. Benchtop and splashback in Bardiglio honed stone, FUM Australia. Blinds in Mokum 'Satori Stonewash' linen in Oyster. 'Heritage Series' oven, Bertazzoni. Perrin & Rowe mixer and pot filler in Pewter, The English Tapware Company. Floor tiles in Botticino and Verde tumbled marble, Aeria Country Floors. Reclaimed Oregon floorboards stained to match original. Stool, Stylecraft. **DINING** Pendant light, Transmitt Co. 'No 18' bentwood chairs, Thonet. Banquette upholstered in Dedar 'Alexander' fabric in Tabacco. Dining table, owners' existing. *River of Thought* ceramic vase by Astrid Salomon.

With its chequered history dating from 1890 when it served variously as a bootmaker's shop, a butcher and then as an Italian delicatessen, with boarding rooms upstairs, this heritage-listed property in an inner-Brisbane suburb fascinated owner Jackie when she came across it in 2018. Looking to downsize from their family home as their four children had moved interstate or overseas, Jackie and husband Nick found the shophouse intriguing, despite its derelict state. In addition, the location right on the fringe of the city promised easy access to everything on offer there. ▶

The building was so compromised that parts of it were falling onto the footpath, prompting complaints from locals, so when Jackie and Nick put their plans into Brisbane City Council the approvals were granted almost immediately.

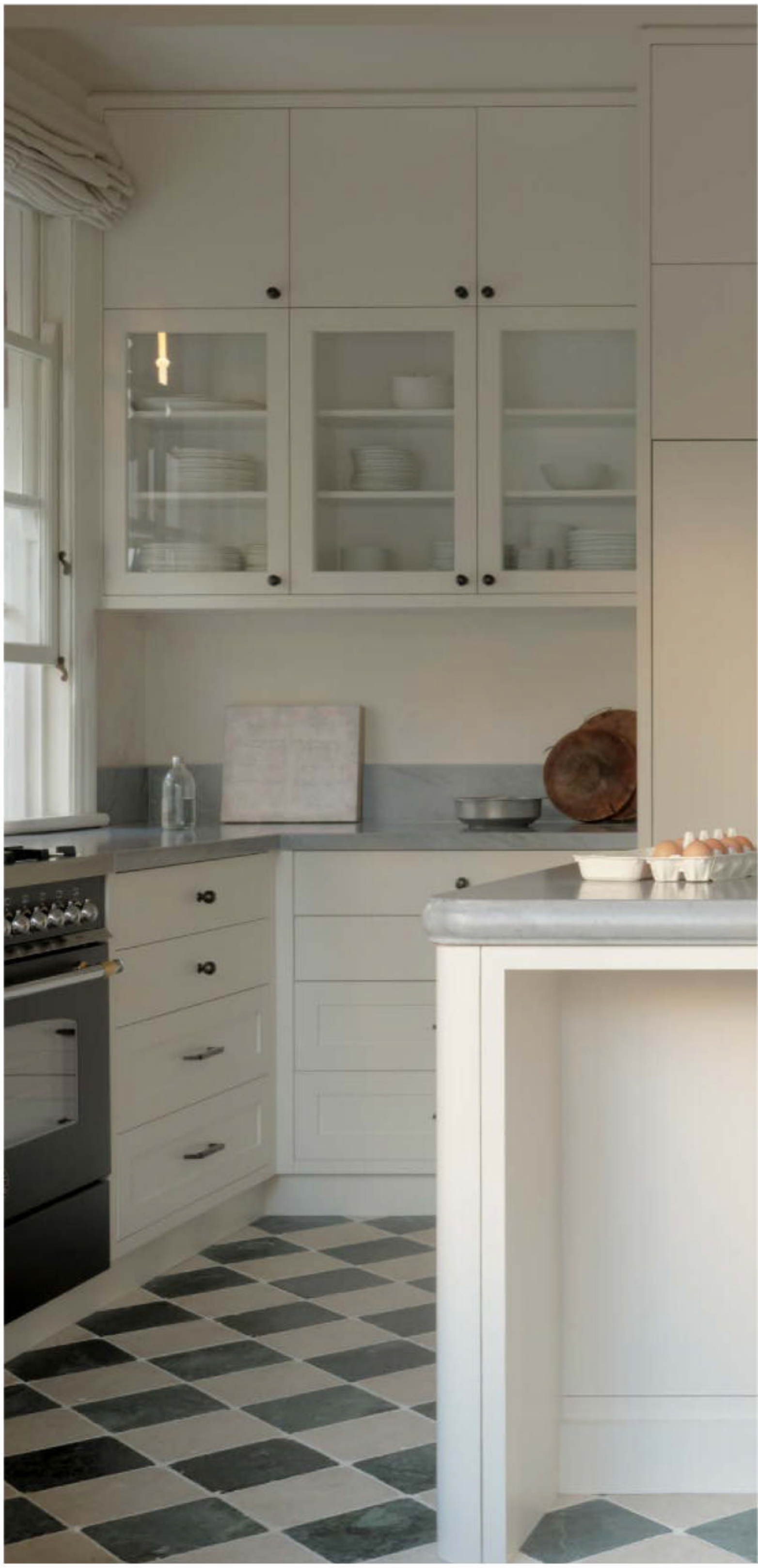
Being heritage-listed there was nothing that could be done to the exterior except for refurbishment. Windows had to remain in the same place and size, and there was no scope for enlarging the very small footprint. However, Jackie had no problem with the restrictions as she wished to preserve the scale and mood of the property, albeit with a contemporary refit.

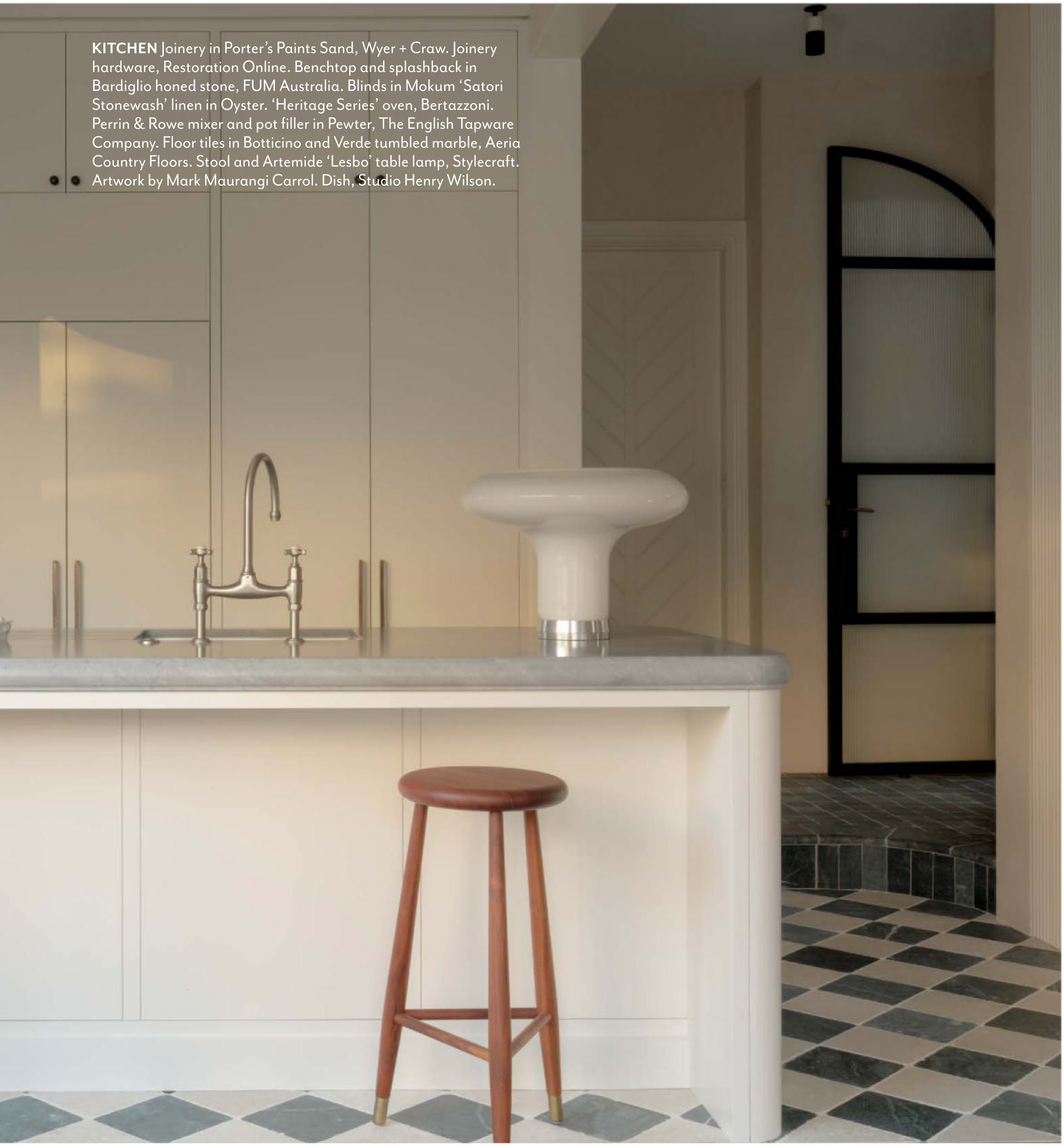
Having been impressed by a hospitality project at Howard Smith Wharves helmed by Samantha Leigh of Samantha Leigh Interiors, Jackie approached her to work on the property. "Jackie was passionate about the building's history and wanted to work with what was there, embracing all the quirks and preserving the charm," says Samantha. "No one had lived there for more than 10 years and, as it was in a state of total disrepair, it was a blank canvas."

The two-storey house occupies a corner position with three street frontages and is built right onto the footpath. That proximity didn't worry Jackie and, in fact, Samantha says "she loves the interaction with the street and seeing people walk past". She was particular about not wanting to change the layout much. The difficulty was in facilitating a functional layout in a building that wasn't originally intended to be residential.

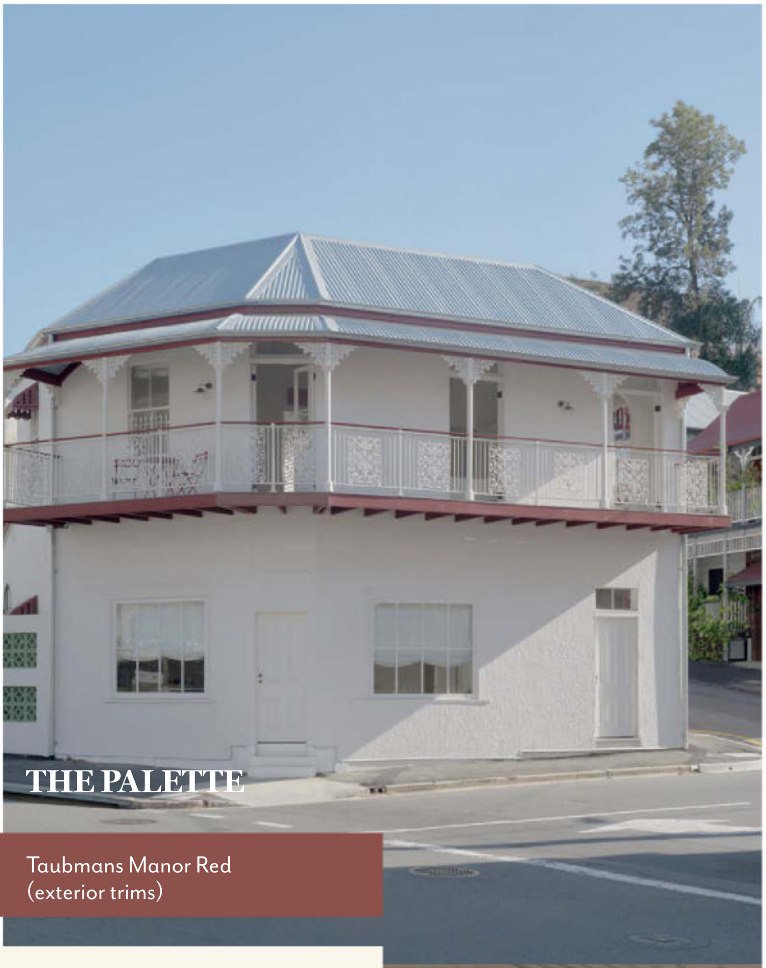
Jackie was keen to retain the external stairs and Samantha managed to incorporate them into the house by linking them with an internal courtyard. As there was no existing kitchen, she had free rein in its position and located it traditionally, on the ground floor alongside a dining and living area, unifying the spaces with checkerboard floor tiles. "For such a small space it is very functional, with lots of storage," she says. "It also feels beautiful – it is intimate and cosy, open and light at the same time."

The downstairs level of the home also has a guest bedroom and bathroom, a powder room and a mudroom accessed from the single garage. Upstairs is the main bedroom and ensuite, a kitchenette and laundry, another bedroom and two sitting rooms, one opening to a verandah. ▶





KITCHEN Joinery in Porter's Paints Sand, Wyer + Craw. Joinery hardware, Restoration Online. Benchtop and splashback in Bardiglio honed stone, FUM Australia. Blinds in Mokum 'Satori Stonewash' linen in Oyster. 'Heritage Series' oven, Bertazzoni. Perrin & Rowe mixer and pot filler in Pewter, The English Tapware Company. Floor tiles in Botticino and Verde tumbled marble, Aeria Country Floors. Stool and Artemide 'Lesbo' table lamp, Stylecraft. Artwork by Mark Maurangi Carrol. Dish, Studio Henry Wilson.



THE PALETTE

Taubmans Manor Red
(exterior trims)

Dulux Fair Bianca Half
(upper floor interiors)

Resene Quarter Blanc
(exterior walls)

"It's surprising that we managed to fit in so much as it's a very small house," says Samantha.

Having initially found the project a little daunting, the designer realised how she could bring the building to life once she delved into its history, citing the influence of English designers such as Rose Uniacke as inspiration.

While Samantha worked on the floorplan and the design concept, heritage consultants Robin Spencer Architects were engaged for the refurbishment. Jackie requested a classic and timeless but modern interior. "She wanted it to be true to the style of the building – historic but different." Because such a mixture of styles had been introduced over the years, including brick arches and the external stucco finish on the original weatherboards, Samantha decided to give the home a European flavour, rather than try to stick to a particular period.

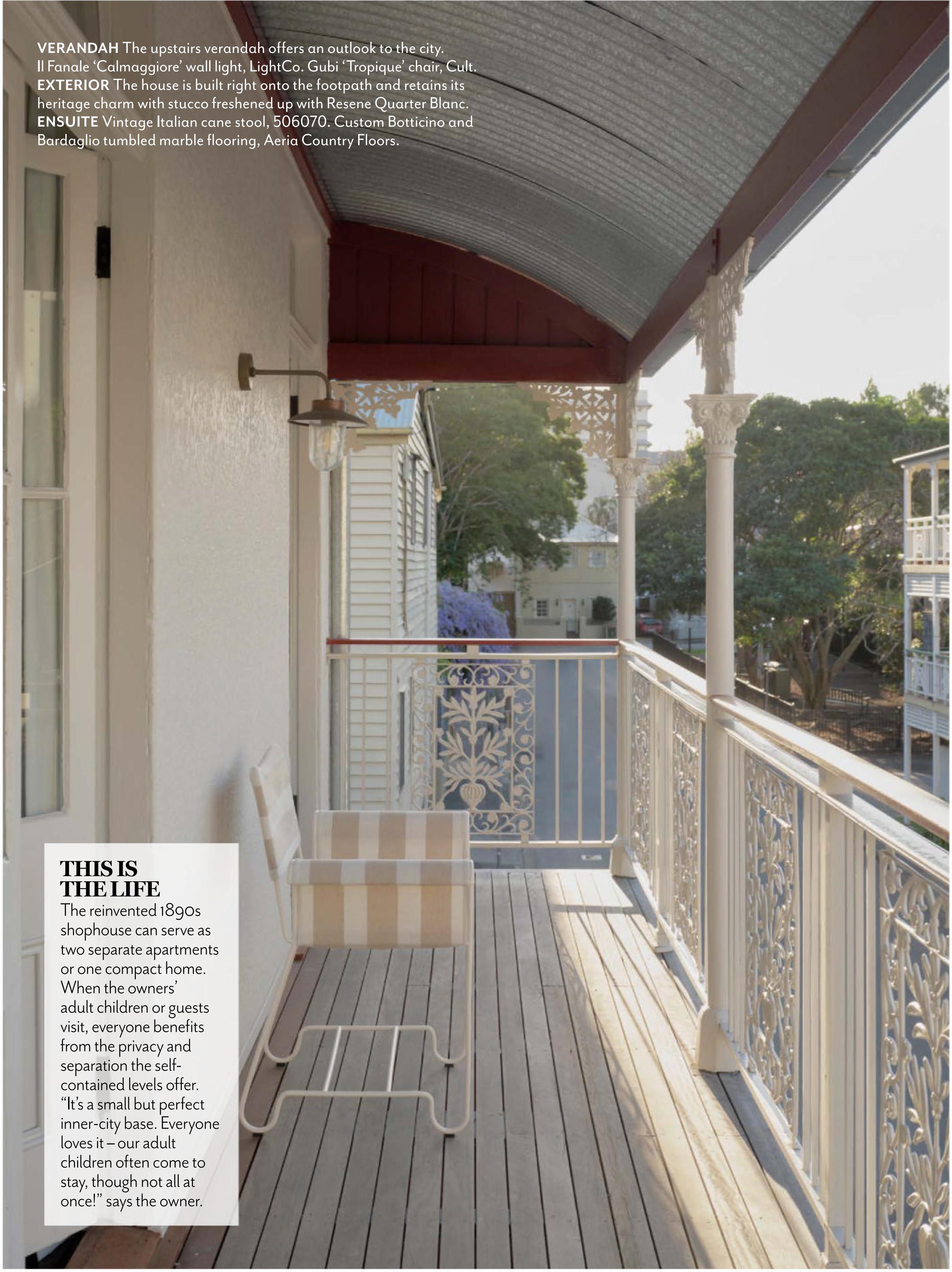
She selected a marmorino finish for the re-lined interior walls to complement the exterior stucco and to introduce softness and help bounce light around. The floors are a mixture of tumbled marble tiles and Oregon timber, which was sourced and stained to match the original boards.

The furnishings are all new, as the owners had downsized from their former home. Pieces feature a contemporary twist on the classic. "I wanted to be sure to get the balance right, not too 'olde worlde' even though it's a heritage property," says Samantha. A "compact and elegantly curved" Stylecraft sofa was an apt choice for the living space, working as a counterpoint to all the angles in the room including the B&B Italia glass coffee table, while Jackie's request for bentwood chairs around the dining table perfectly complements the upholstered banquette under the window.

The owners are very enthusiastic about their remade shophouse. "It's heritage-listed but feels like a brand new house," says Jackie. "The finishes are traditional – marble, handmade tiles and timber – so it all feels authentic." She is pleased when friends say the house feels Mediterranean, perhaps an unplanned nod to the Italian heritage of previous owners. "People say they remember the aroma of cheese and salami emanating from the house in the 1960s." ▶

***Samantha Leigh Interiors:** samanthaleigh.com.au.*
***Robin Spencer Architects:** rsaarchitects.net.*

Paint colours are reproduced as accurately as printing processes allow.

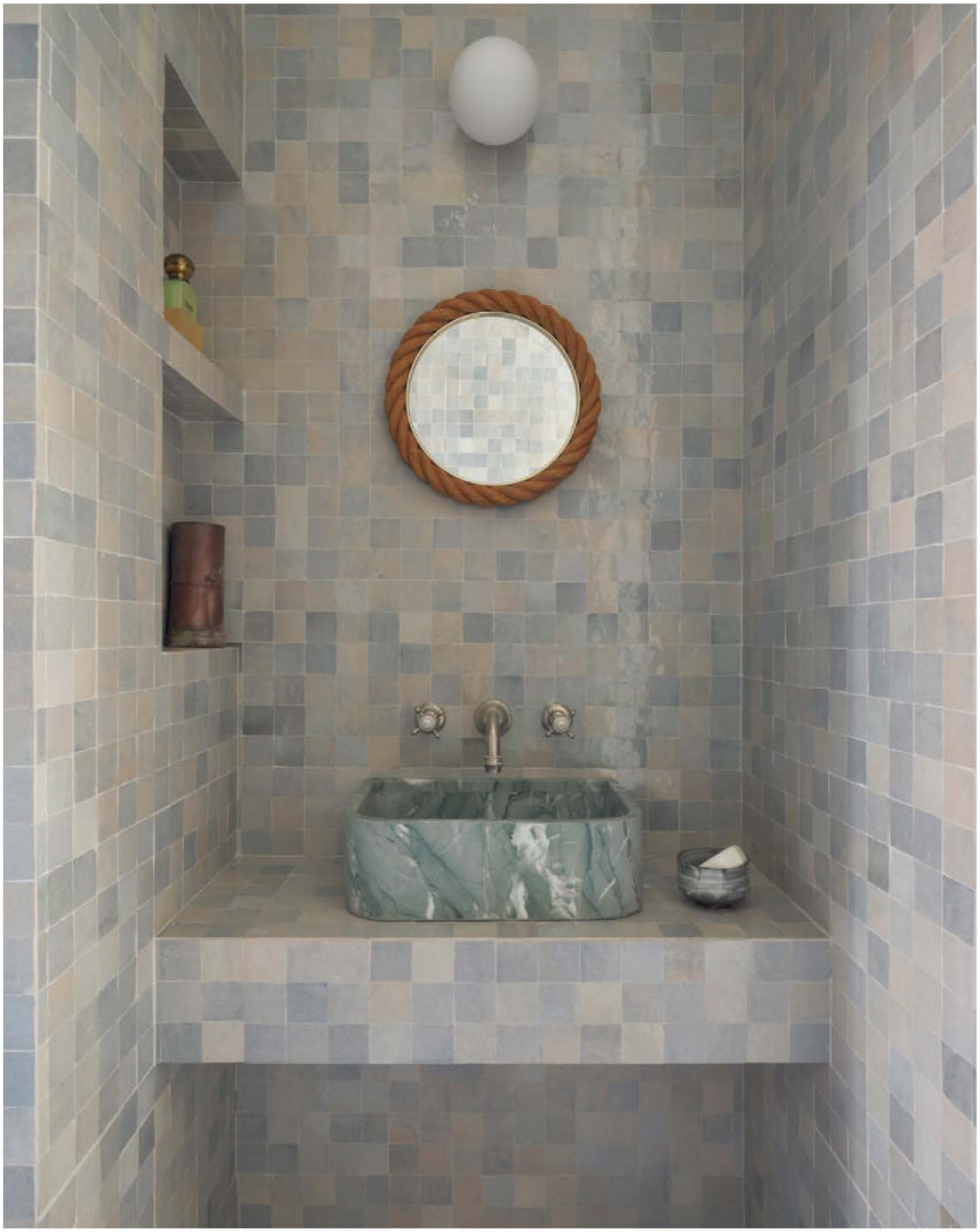


VERANDAH The upstairs verandah offers an outlook to the city. Il Fanale 'Calmaggiore' wall light, LightCo. Gubi 'Tropique' chair, Cult. **EXTERIOR** The house is built right onto the footpath and retains its heritage charm with stucco freshened up with Resene Quarter Blanc. **ENSUITE** Vintage Italian cane stool, 506070. Custom Botticino and Bardaglio tumbled marble flooring, Aeria Country Floors.

THIS IS THE LIFE

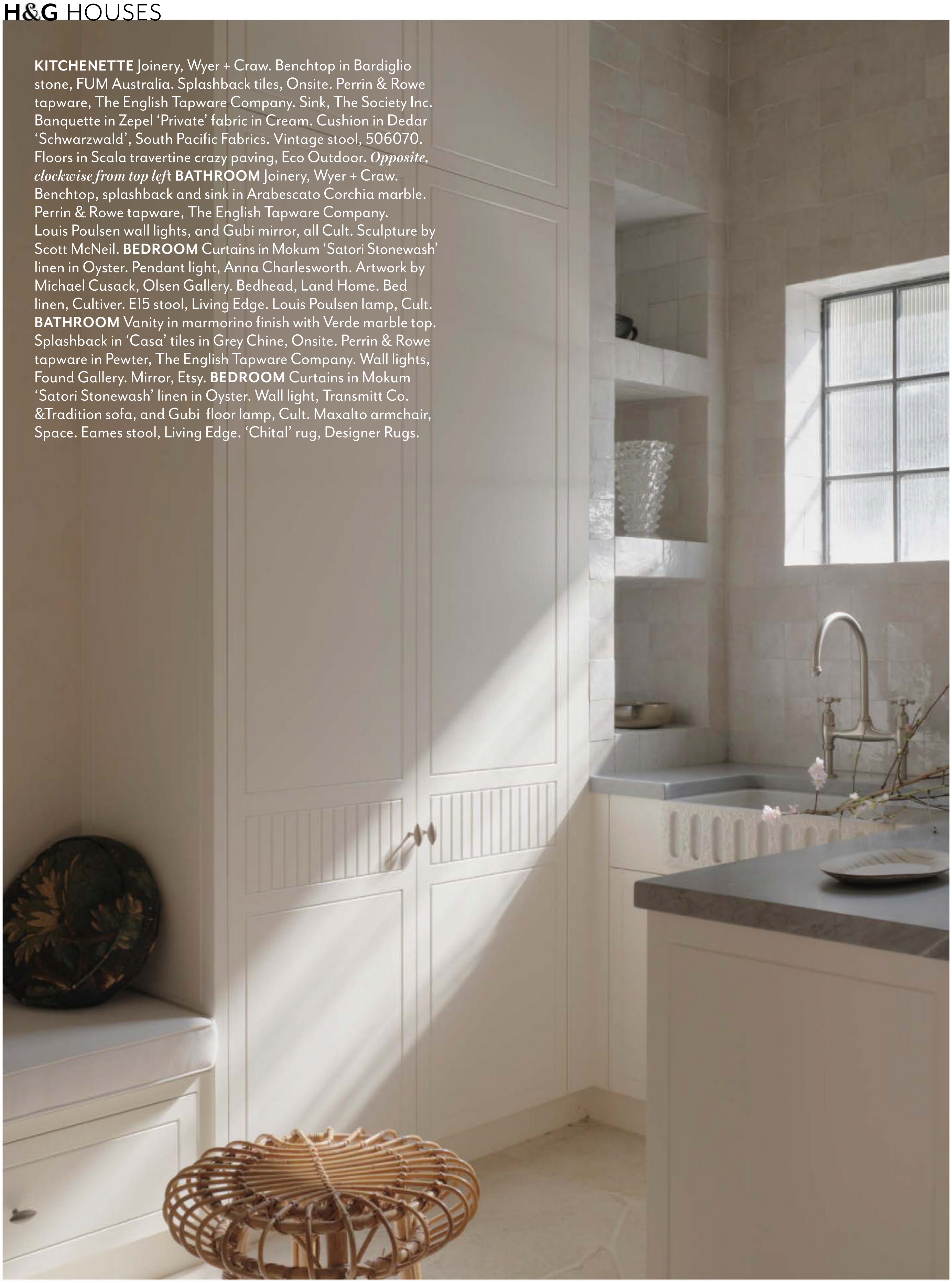
The reinvented 1890s shophouse can serve as two separate apartments or one compact home. When the owners' adult children or guests visit, everyone benefits from the privacy and separation the self-contained levels offer. "It's a small but perfect inner-city base. Everyone loves it – our adult children often come to stay, though not all at once!" says the owner.

BATHROOM 'Casa' handmade wall and floor tiles in Grey Chine, Onsite. 'Dioscuri' wall lamp, Artemide. Vintage Audoux Minet rope mirror, Hark Interiors. Custom basin in Verde Antique marble. Perrin & Rowe tapware, towel rail and towel hook in Pewter, The English Tapware Company. Soap dish, Planet. Vase, 506070. Society Limonta towel, Ondene. Custom shower curtain in Casamance 'Azuriale'. **BEDROOM** E15 'Backenzahn' stool, Living Edge. Louis Poulsen table lamp, Cult. Bed linen in Ivory, Cultiver.

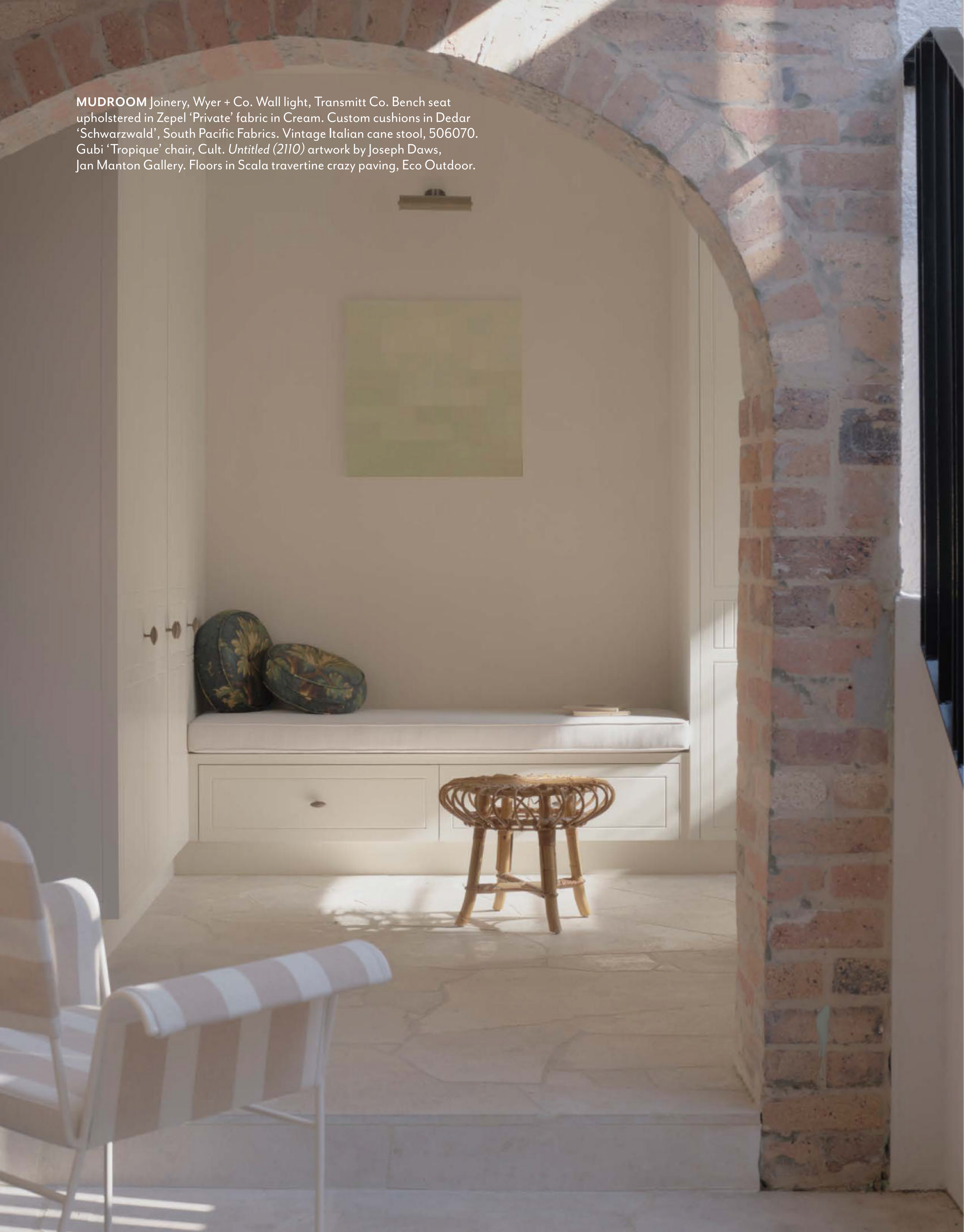


“For a small space it is very functional … intimate and cosy, open and light at the same time.”

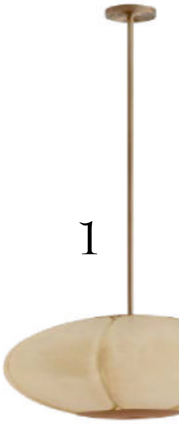
SAMANTHA LEIGH, INTERIOR DESIGNER



KITCHENETTE Joinery, Wyer + Craw. Benchtop in Bardiglio stone, FUM Australia. Splashback tiles, Onsite. Perrin & Rowe tapware, The English Tapware Company. Sink, The Society Inc. Banquette in Zepel 'Private' fabric in Cream. Cushion in Dedar 'Schwarzwald', South Pacific Fabrics. Vintage stool, 506070. Floors in Scala travertine crazy paving, Eco Outdoor. *Opposite, clockwise from top left* **BATHROOM** Joinery, Wyer + Craw. Benchtop, splashback and sink in Arabescato Corchia marble. Perrin & Rowe tapware, The English Tapware Company. Louis Poulsen wall lights, and Gubi mirror, all Cult. Sculpture by Scott McNeil. **BEDROOM** Curtains in Mokum 'Satori Stonewash' linen in Oyster. Pendant light, Anna Charlesworth. Artwork by Michael Cusack, Olsen Gallery. Bedhead, Land Home. Bed linen, Cultiver. E15 stool, Living Edge. Louis Poulsen lamp, Cult. **BATHROOM** Vanity in marmorino finish with Verde marble top. Splashback in 'Casa' tiles in Grey Chine, Onsite. Perrin & Rowe tapware in Pewter, The English Tapware Company. Wall lights, Found Gallery. Mirror, Etsy. **BEDROOM** Curtains in Mokum 'Satori Stonewash' linen in Oyster. Wall light, Transmitt Co. &Tradition sofa, and Gubi floor lamp, Cult. Maxalto armchair, Space. Eames stool, Living Edge. 'Chital' rug, Designer Rugs.

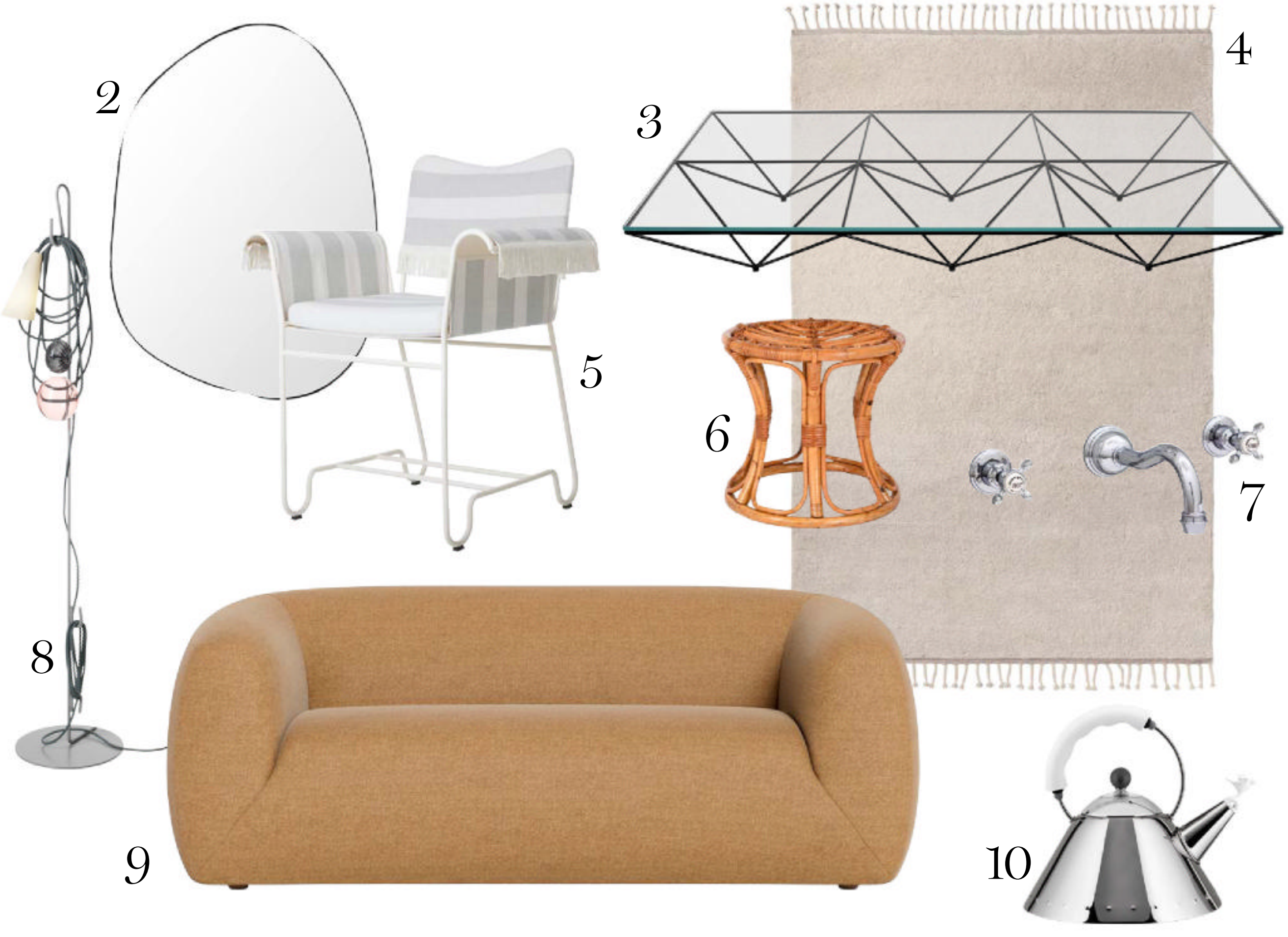


MUDROOM Joinery, Wyer + Co. Wall light, Transmitt Co. Bench seat upholstered in Zepel 'Private' fabric in Cream. Custom cushions in Dedar 'Schwarzwald', South Pacific Fabrics. Vintage Italian cane stool, 506070. Gubi 'Tropique' chair, Cult. *Untitled (2110)* artwork by Joseph Daws, Jan Manton Gallery. Floors in Scala travertine crazy paving, Eco Outdoor.



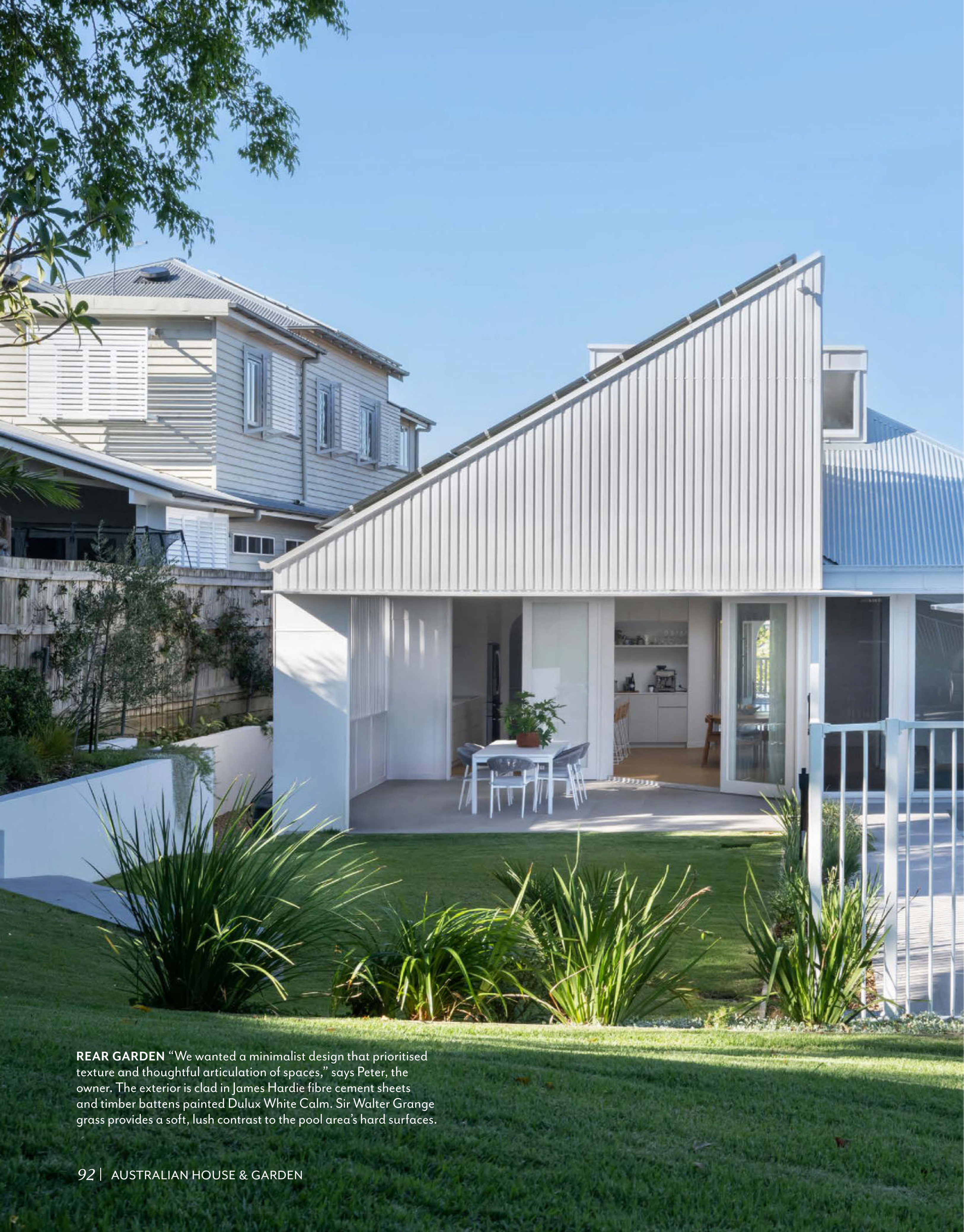
THE SOURCE

Emulate a sophisticated yet relaxed European aesthetic by mixing and matching unique pieces.



1 Flack Studio x Volker Haug Studio 'Me and You' **pendant light**, POA, Volker Haug Studio. **2** CL Living 'Pollock' **wall mirror**, $1149, Freedom. **3** B&B Italia 'Alanda' **coffee table**, $5840, Space. **4** 'Petra' **rug** in Cloud (240x170cm), $2400, Armadillo. **5** Gubi 'Tropique' **dining chair**, from $1500, Cult. **6** Mid-century modern rattan and bamboo Italian 1960s **round stool**, $1737, Pamono. **7** Perrin & Rowe wall-mounted **basin mixer** with country spout and crosshead taps in Chrome, $720, The English Tapware Company. **8** Foscarini 'Filo' **floor lamp**, $1430, Space. **9** 'Zepplyn' fabric **two-seater sofa**, $2279, Freedom. **10** Alessi '9093' 2L **kettle** in White, $259, Finnish Design Shop. **H&G**

Produced by Andrea Healy.



REAR GARDEN "We wanted a minimalist design that prioritised texture and thoughtful articulation of spaces," says Peter, the owner. The exterior is clad in James Hardie fibre cement sheets and timber battens painted Dulux White Calm. Sir Walter Grange grass provides a soft, lush contrast to the pool area's hard surfaces.

HIGHER *calling*

Renovating in the shadow of a century-old fig tree challenged Brisbane architect Stewart Smith to search for sunlight above the canopy.

STORY *Rachel White* | PHOTOGRAPHY *Alanna Jayne McTiernan*

A seamless blend of old and new, this recently renovated Queenslander was a study in symmetry and balance for local architect Stewart Smith of Smith Architects. “It was about trying to find a way to respect two things,” says Stewart. “The first was the original Queenslander at the front, the second was this really beautiful but imposing, 100-year-old fig tree out the back.”

Starting with the home in original condition, Stewart took a sympathetic approach to restoring the Art Deco frontage and existing internal spaces, preserving features such as leadlight windows, arched facade and stucco finishes. This character is not easy to come by in this inner-Brisbane suburb filled with pre-war houses.

“The house hadn’t been loved for quite a period of time, so a major portion of work was restoring it,” says Stewart. “We wanted to respect the original architecture by leaving it in position rather than raising it.”

Owners Peter and Kayla – who live in the home with their children, Joseph, seven, and Estelle, five – were in favour of preserving as much of the original home as possible, both as a way of honouring the unique heritage and as a cost-saving measure.

“The more you can keep of an existing house, the less you’re spending on construction, which gave us more ▶

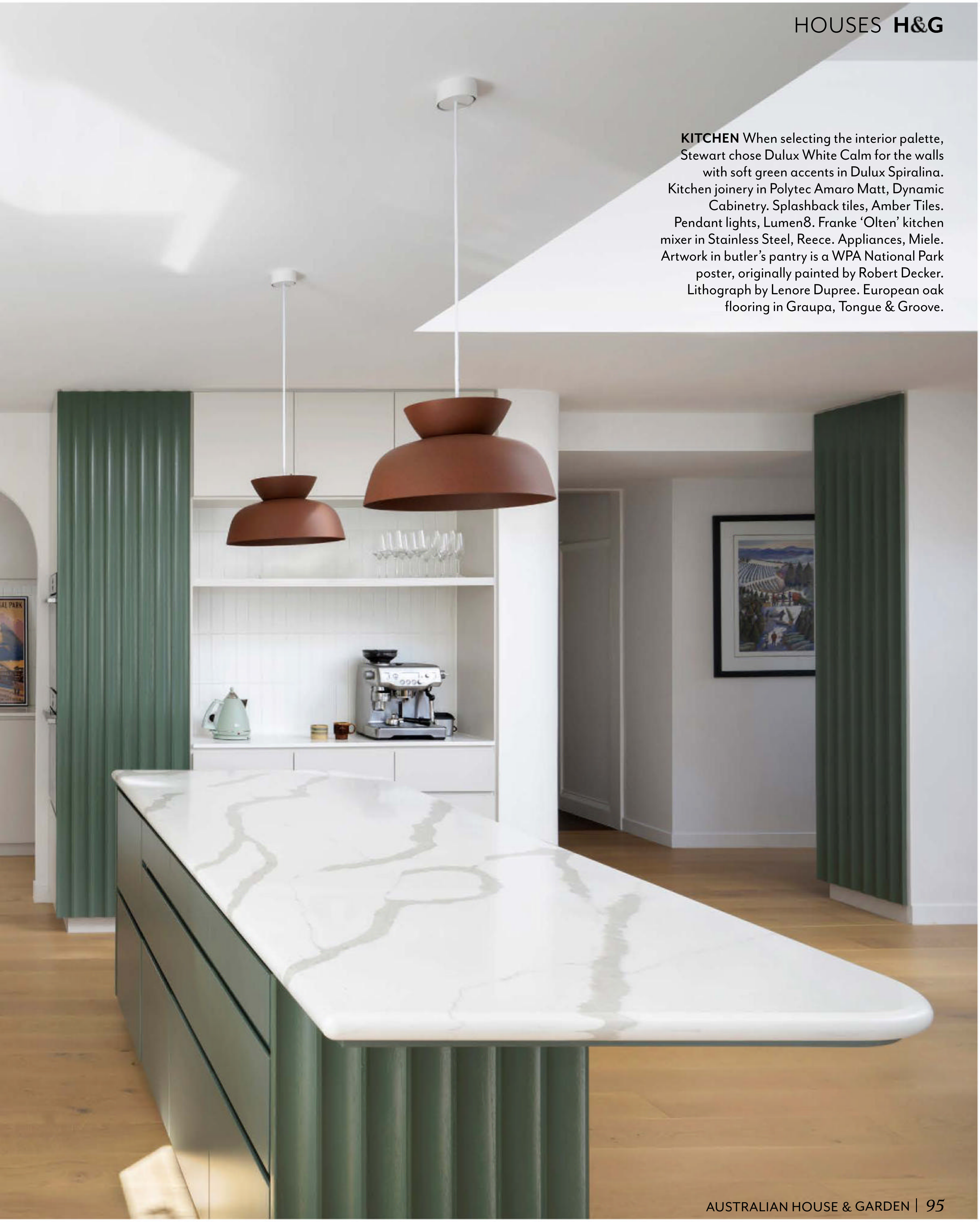
THE PALETTE

Dulux White Calm
(exterior and interior walls)

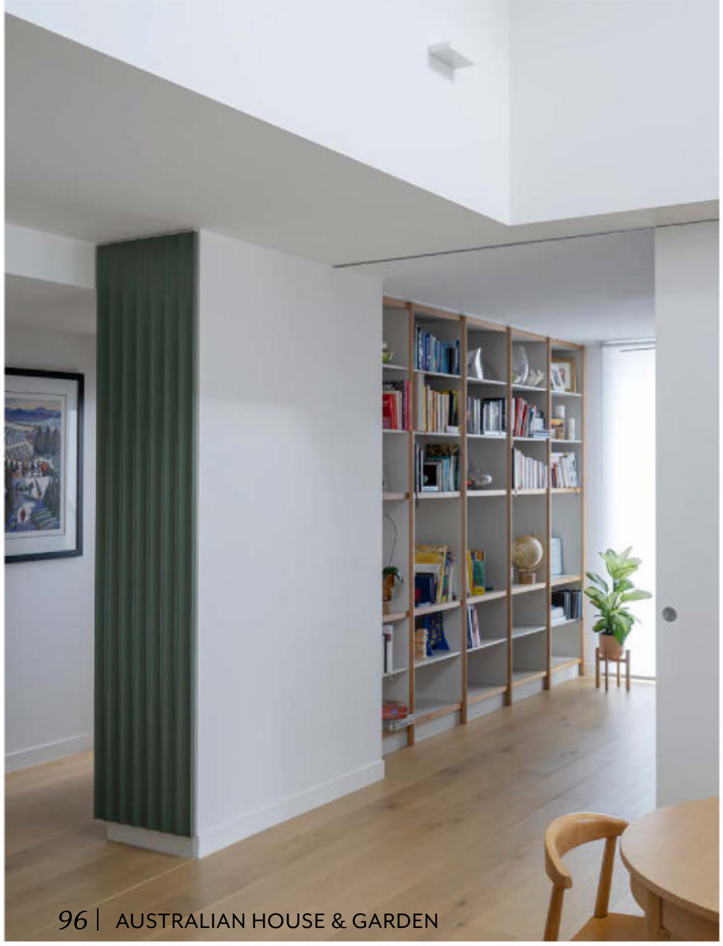
Dulux Spiralina
(kitchen joinery)

Dulux Duralloy Terrain

Paint colours are reproduced as accurately as printing processes allow.



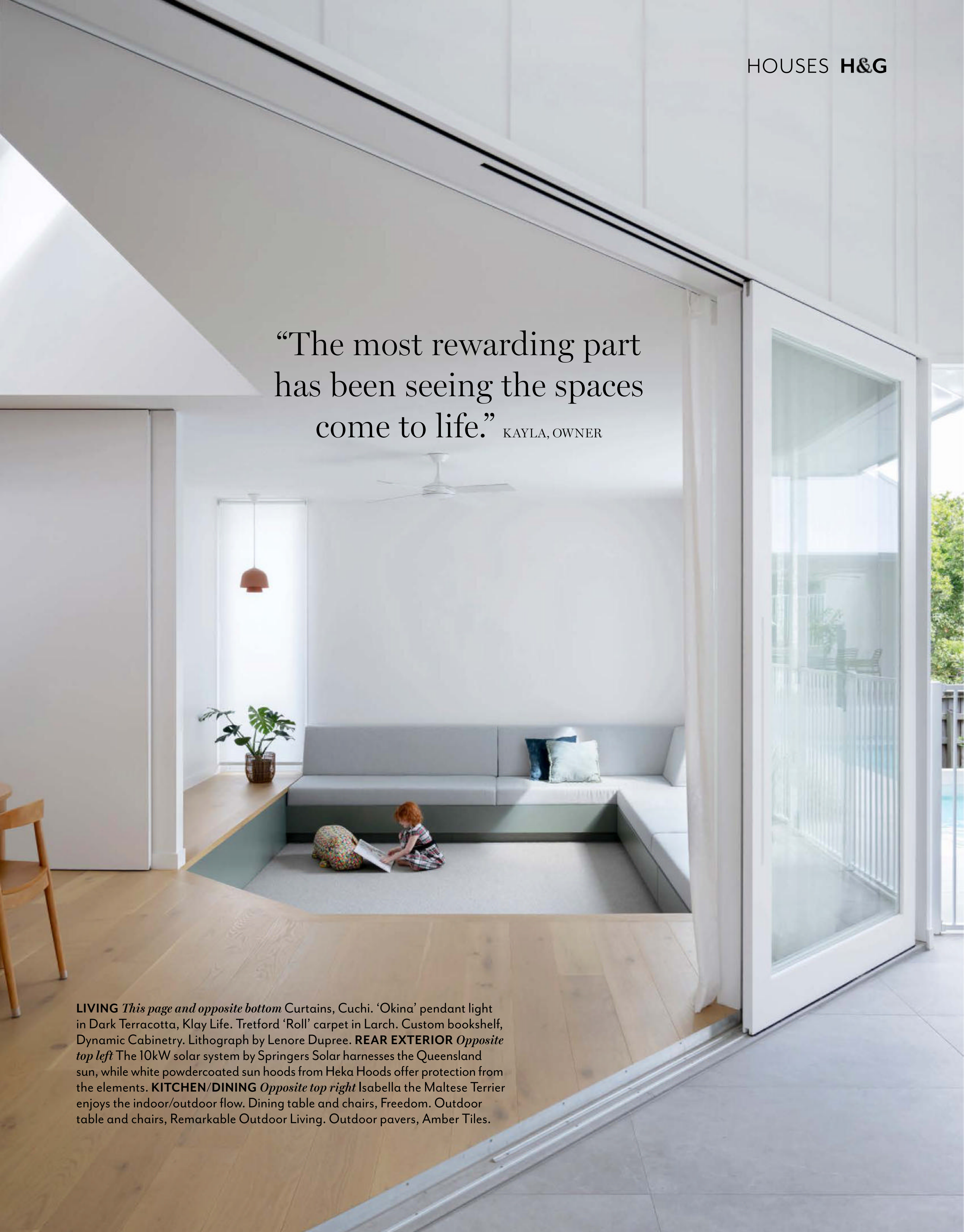
KITCHEN When selecting the interior palette, Stewart chose Dulux White Calm for the walls with soft green accents in Dulux Spiralina. Kitchen joinery in Polytec Amaro Matt, Dynamic Cabinetry. Splashback tiles, Amber Tiles. Pendant lights, Lumen8. Franke 'Olten' kitchen mixer in Stainless Steel, Reece. Appliances, Miele. Artwork in butler's pantry is a WPA National Park poster, originally painted by Robert Decker. Lithograph by Lenore Dupree. European oak flooring in Graupa, Tongue & Groove.



to invest in the extension and the pool, which were high on Peter and Kayla's list of must-haves," says Stewart.

The original part of the home now seamlessly connects to the contemporary extension, thanks to subtle cues referencing the home's heritage roots in the modern addition, which create overall harmony. "We haven't copied the Art Deco style, we've just referenced some design elements, especially some of the softness that you get in an Art Deco space," says Stewart. The arch shape, typical of that historical style, is carried into the kitchen/pantry space, and playfully turned upside-down in the bathroom with the curved mirrored shaving cabinets.

When it comes to the lack of natural light, the new extension takes care of this with a series of thoughtfully appointed high windows and lightwells capturing sunshine from above the fig tree's long-established canopy. "The high volume we created in the dining room was an attempt to capture light," says Stewart. "The fig tree, while beautiful, sits to the north of the site and would naturally block light into the house if it wasn't for the creation of this volume at the core of the extension." An elegant solution, the high windows ensure the lack of direct sunlight isn't noticeable in the space, while the family enjoys their bright home and the fig tree happily lives on for another 100 years. ▶



> “The most rewarding part has been seeing the spaces come to life.” KAYLA, OWNER

LIVING *This page and opposite bottom* Curtains, Cuchi. ‘Okina’ pendant light in Dark Terracotta, Klay Life. Tretford ‘Roll’ carpet in Larch. Custom bookshelf, Dynamic Cabinetry. Lithograph by Lenore Dupree. **REAR EXTERIOR** *Opposite top left* The 10kW solar system by Springers Solar harnesses the Queensland sun, while white powdercoated sun hoods from Heka Hoods offer protection from the elements. **KITCHEN/DINING** *Opposite top right* Isabella the Maltese Terrier enjoys the indoor/outdoor flow. Dining table and chairs, Freedom. Outdoor table and chairs, Remarkable Outdoor Living. Outdoor pavers, Amber Tiles.

A response to what was one of the "most challenging aspects of this project", Stewart's extension also made it possible to create an intuitive flow from the front door to the back fence, something that was important to Peter and Kayla. "Our brief to Stewart was all about creating a home that felt connected, functional and, above all, welcoming," says Peter. "We wanted the home to have a seamless connection between the living areas, the yard and the bedrooms."

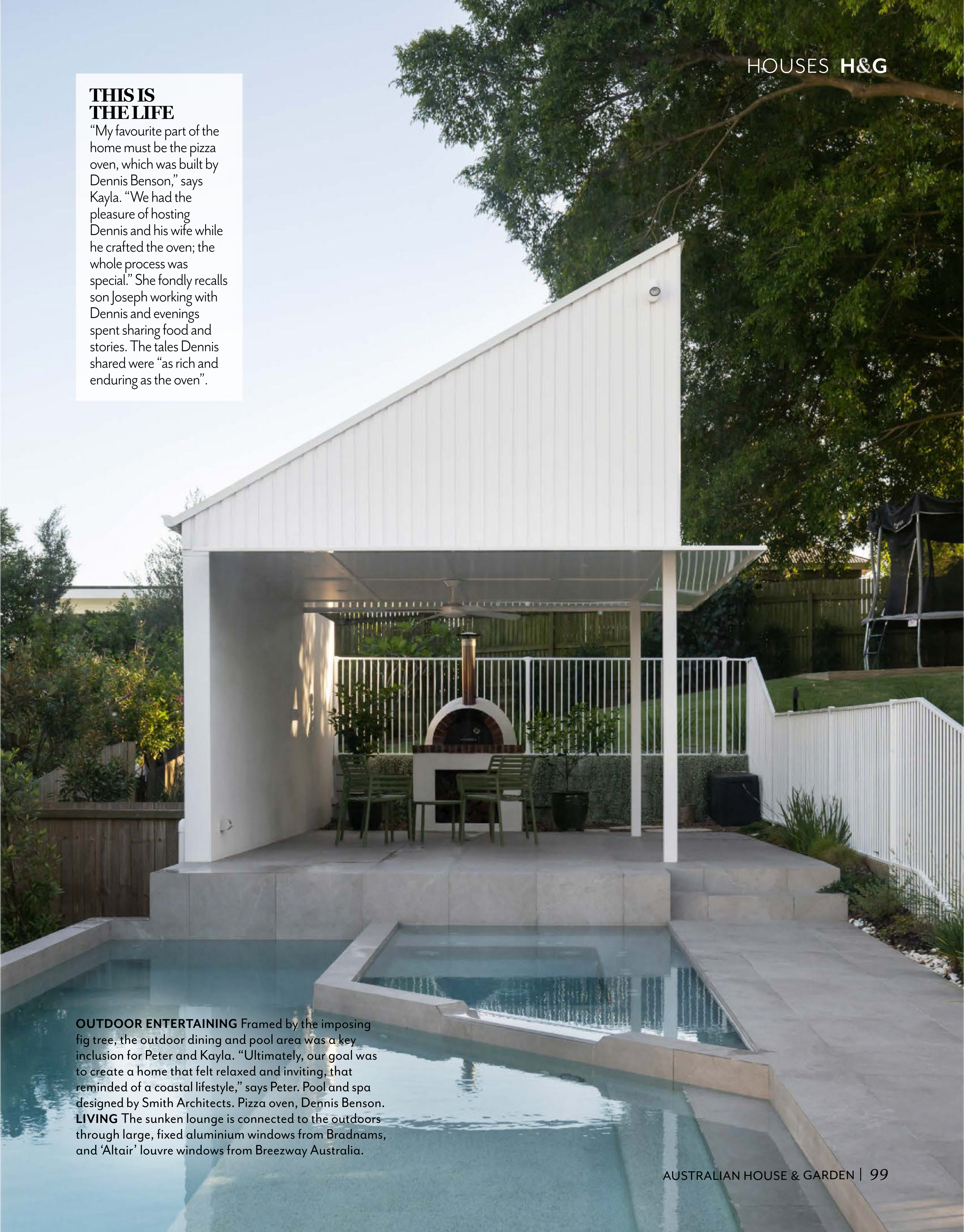
Working with the contours of the site, the single-level interior and exterior zones are cleverly intertwined. "We used the pool to help achieve a large, level landscaped space on a steep site. There's no level change or barrier between the living and outdoor spaces," says Stewart.

The finished home is a success that elevates the everyday on all fronts. Kayla says, "The most rewarding part has been seeing the spaces come to life. When we have 16 neighbourhood kids comfortably gathered in the sunken lounge … it's such a satisfying feeling knowing the design works so well." ▶

Smith Architects: *smitharchitects.com.au.* ***Allen Brothers Construction:*** *allenbrothersconstruction.com.au.*

"Being in this home feels calm – it's the perfect balance of comfort, functionality and style."

KAYLA, OWNER

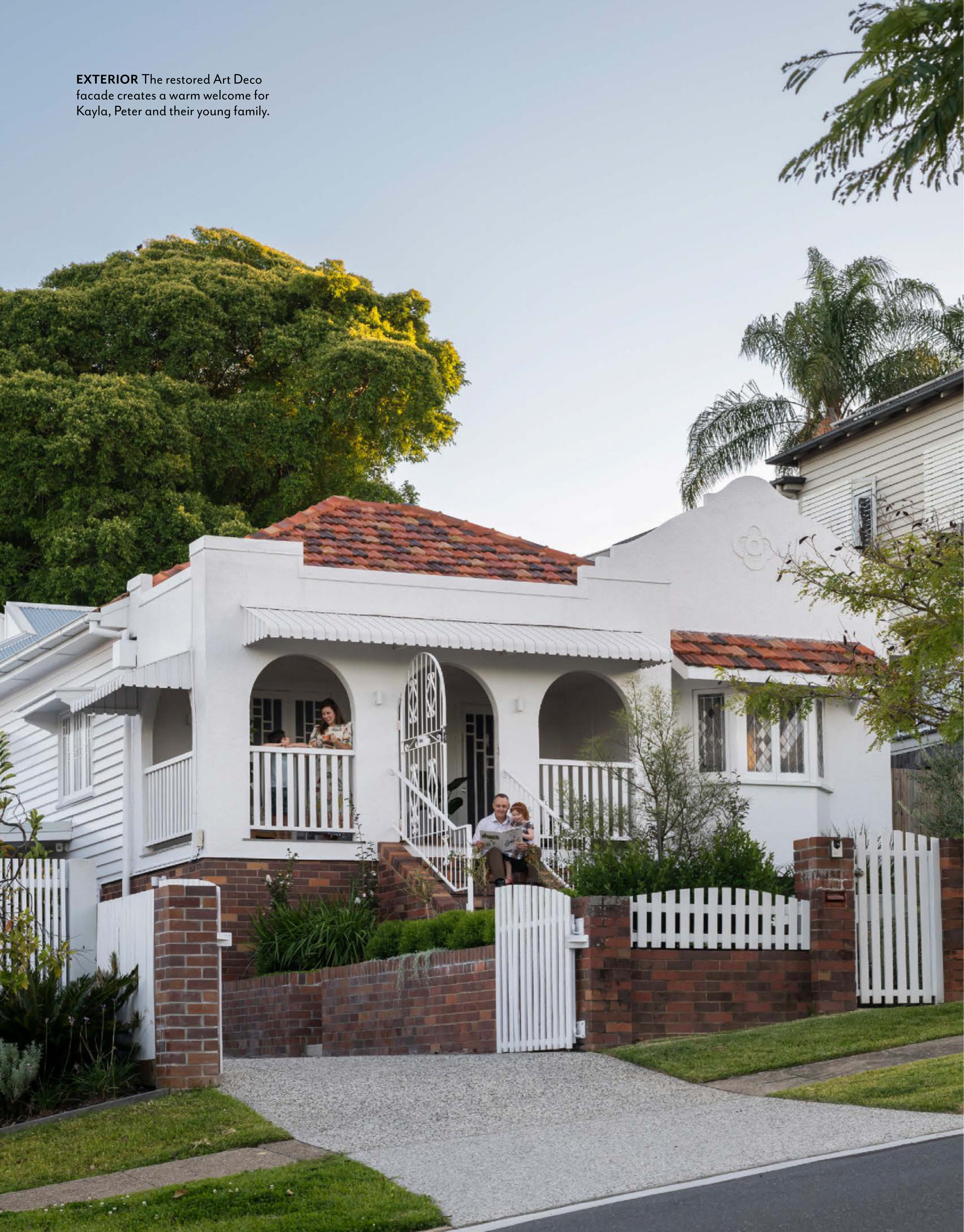


THIS IS THE LIFE

"My favourite part of the home must be the pizza oven, which was built by Dennis Benson," says Kayla. "We had the pleasure of hosting Dennis and his wife while he crafted the oven; the whole process was special." She fondly recalls son Joseph working with Dennis and evenings spent sharing food and stories. The tales Dennis shared were "as rich and enduring as the oven".

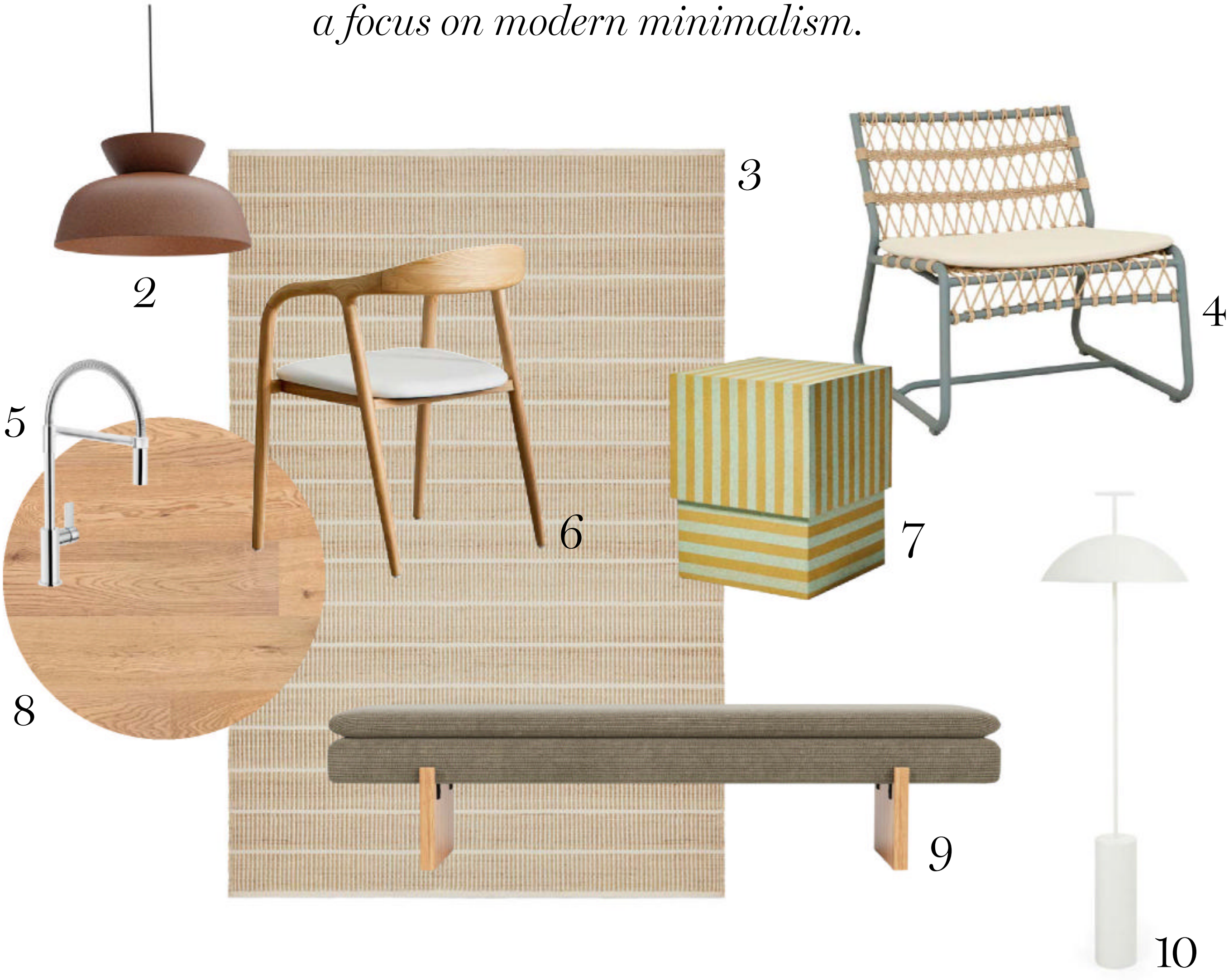
OUTDOOR ENTERTAINING Framed by the imposing fig tree, the outdoor dining and pool area was a key inclusion for Peter and Kayla. "Ultimately, our goal was to create a home that felt relaxed and inviting, that reminded of a coastal lifestyle," says Peter. Pool and spa designed by Smith Architects. Pizza oven, Dennis Benson. **LIVING** The sunken lounge is connected to the outdoors through large, fixed aluminium windows from Bradnams, and 'Altair' louvre windows from Breezway Australia.

EXTERIOR The restored Art Deco facade creates a warm welcome for Kayla, Peter and their young family.



THE SOURCE

Create a sense of space and light with a focus on modern minimalism.



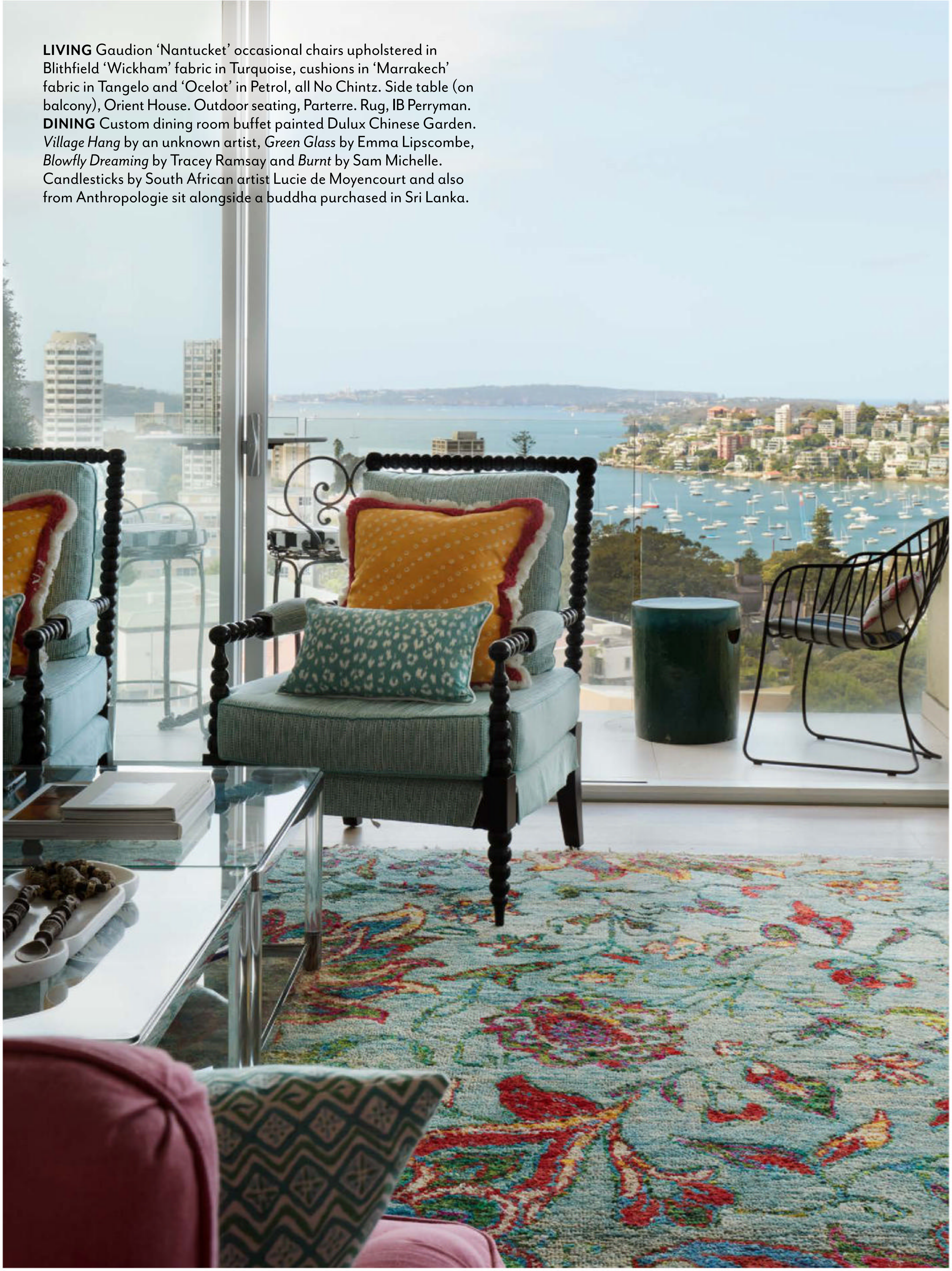
1 'Potter DS' **pendant light** in DS White (180cm), from $2875, Anchor Ceramics. **2** 'Hat Mono' **pendant light** in Brick Speckle, $1120, South Drawn. **3** 'Trellis' **rug** in Natural & White (240x170cm), $900, Armadillo. **4** 'Normandy Twist' **occasional chair** in Rye and Sky Aluminium, $1350, GlobeWest. **5** Nobili 'Flag' pull-down **sink mixer** in Chrome, $850, Reece. **6** 'Megan' **dining chair**, $599, Domayne. **7** Cork square **side table** in Stripe Mint, $479, Bonnie and Neil. **8** 'Amalfi' **timber flooring** in Tovere, POA, Carpet Court. **9** 'Umi' velvet **bench** in Sage cord, $859, Life Interiors. **10** Kartell 'Geen-A' **floor lamp**, $1575, Space. **H&G**

Produced by Andrea Healy.

HEART AND SOUL

Clever use of colour and pattern turn a small apartment in Sydney's east into a light-filled and joyful home for its well-travelled owners.

STORY & STYLING *Alexandra Gordon* | PHOTOGRAPHY *Prue Ruscoe*



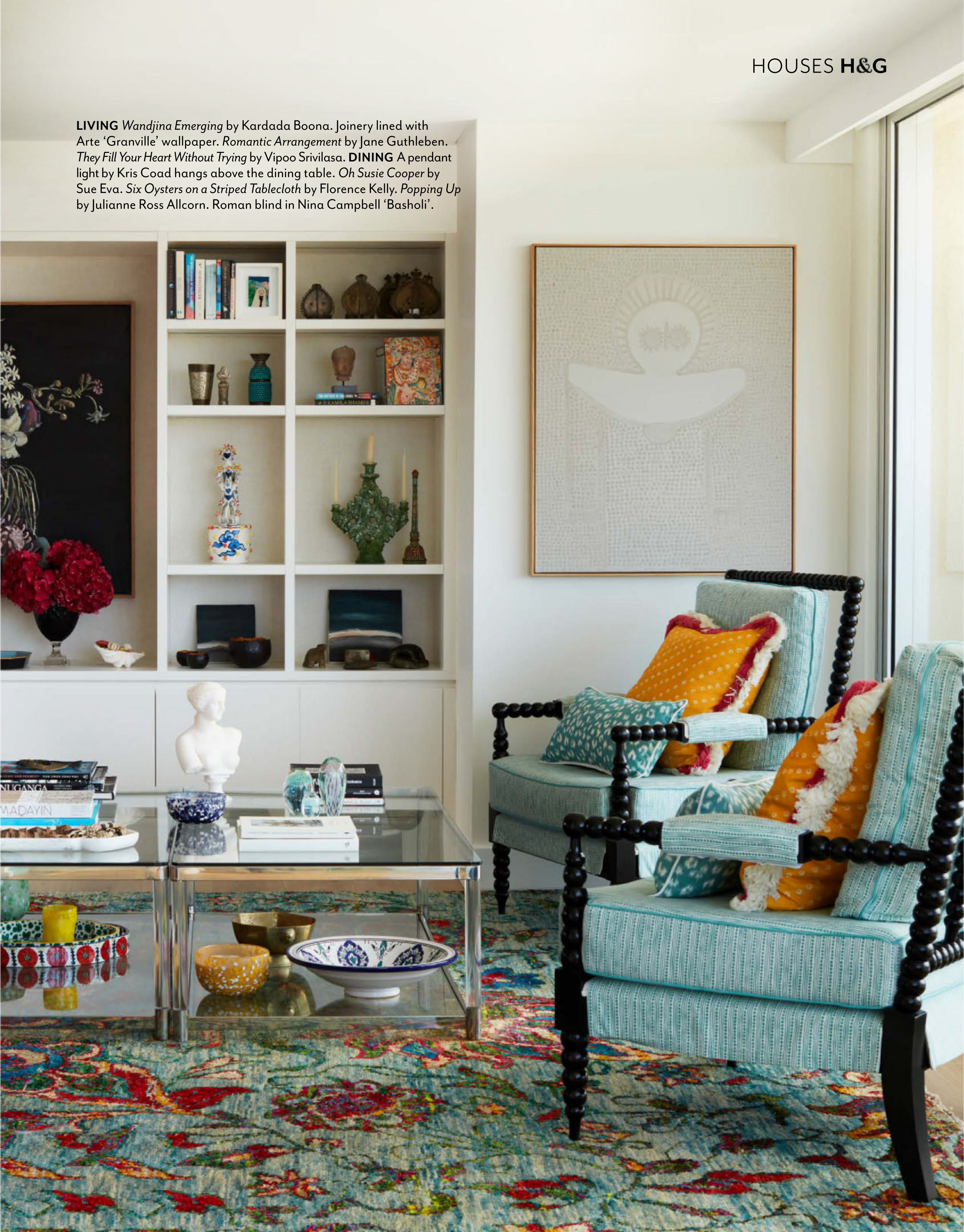
LIVING Gaudion 'Nantucket' occasional chairs upholstered in Blithfield 'Wickham' fabric in Turquoise, cushions in 'Marrakech' fabric in Tangelo and 'Ocelot' in Petrol, all No Chintz. Side table (on balcony), Orient House. Outdoor seating, Parterre. Rug, IB Perryman. **DINING** Custom dining room buffet painted Dulux Chinese Garden. *Village Hang* by an unknown artist, *Green Glass* by Emma Lipscombe, *Blowfly Dreaming* by Tracey Ramsay and *Burnt* by Sam Michelle. Candlesticks by South African artist Lucie de Moyencourt and also from Anthropologie sit alongside a buddha purchased in Sri Lanka.

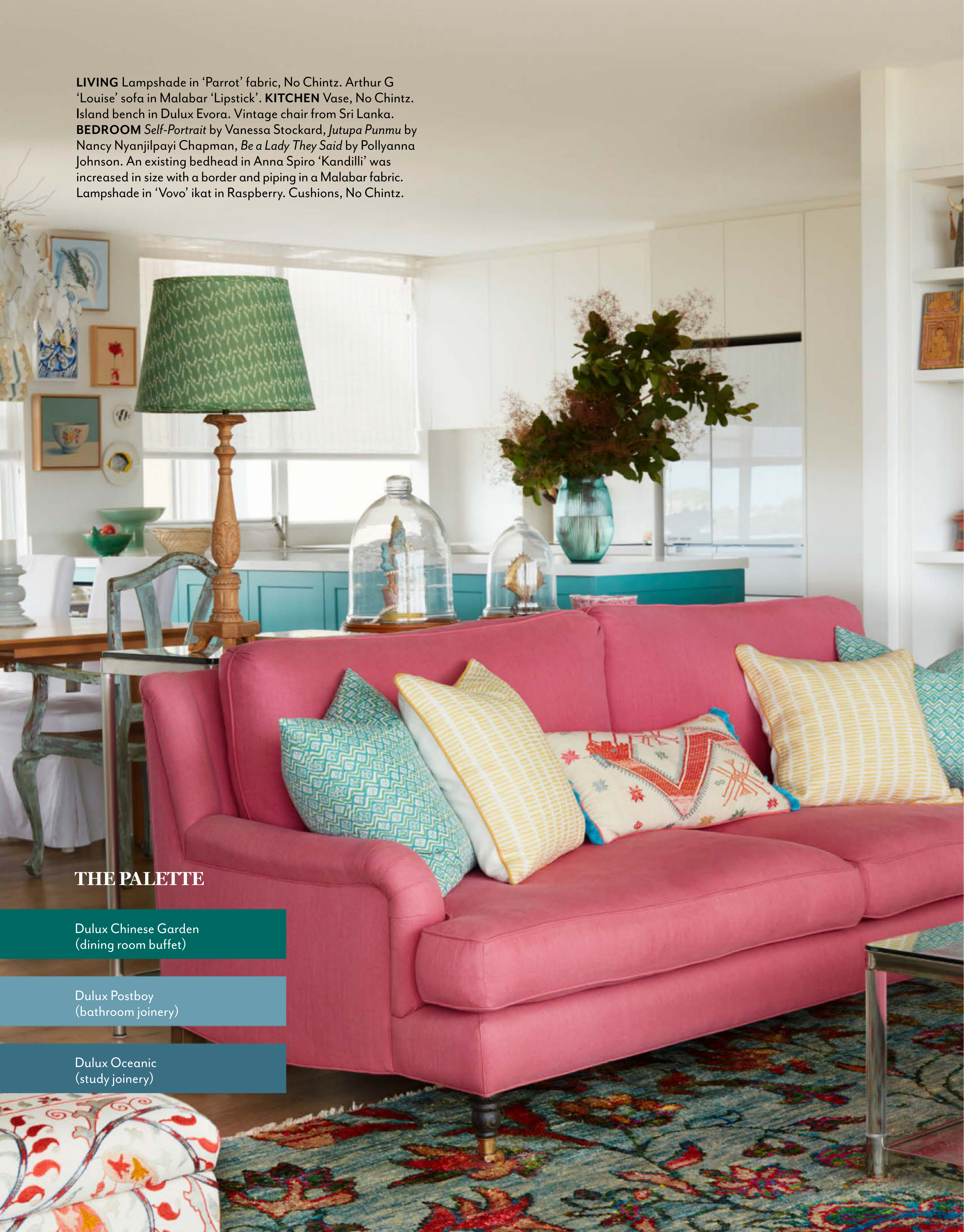
The interiors of Libby and Tom's one-and-a-half bedroom city apartment are unexpectedly colourful. Located halfway up a 30-storey building in harbourside Sydney, the modernist exterior belies the colours and patterns that have been expertly woven throughout with the help of colour expert Chrissie Jeffery, the creative force behind textiles and interior decorating company No Chintz.

Chrissie Jeffery is known for her distinctive textiles and furnishings, and the couple, having lived in Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Indonesia before moving to Sydney, shared her love of colour. "When we met in Sri Lanka, Tom was a British diplomat at the British embassy and I was an entrepreneur running boutique hotels," says Libby, who works with developing countries tackling ▶

> "Every day we would go for a walk and look at apartments and eventually decided on this location."
>
> LIBBY, OWNER

LIVING *Wandjina Emerging* by Kardada Boona. Joinery lined with Arte 'Granville' wallpaper. *Romantic Arrangement* by Jane Guthleben. *They Fill Your Heart Without Trying* by Vipoo Srivilasa. **DINING** A pendant light by Kris Coad hangs above the dining table. *Oh Susie Cooper* by Sue Eva. *Six Oysters on a Striped Tablecloth* by Florence Kelly. *Popping Up* by Julianne Ross Allcorn. Roman blind in Nina Campbell 'Basholi'.





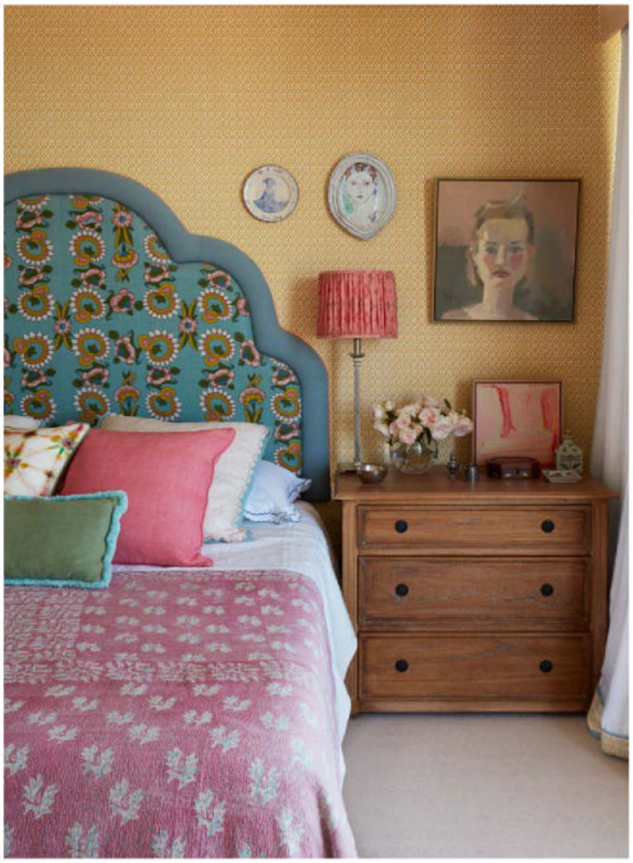
LIVING Lampshade in 'Parrot' fabric, No Chintz. Arthur G 'Louise' sofa in Malabar 'Lipstick'. **KITCHEN** Vase, No Chintz. Island bench in Dulux Evora. Vintage chair from Sri Lanka. **BEDROOM** *Self-Portrait* by Vanessa Stockard, *Jutupa Punmu* by Nancy Nyanjilpayi Chapman, *Be a Lady They Said* by Pollyanna Johnson. An existing bedhead in Anna Spiro 'Kandilli' was increased in size with a border and piping in a Malabar fabric. Lampshade in 'Vovo' ikat in Raspberry. Cushions, No Chintz.

THE PALETTE

Dulux Chinese Garden (dining room buffet)

Dulux Postboy (bathroom joinery)

Dulux Oceanic (study joinery)



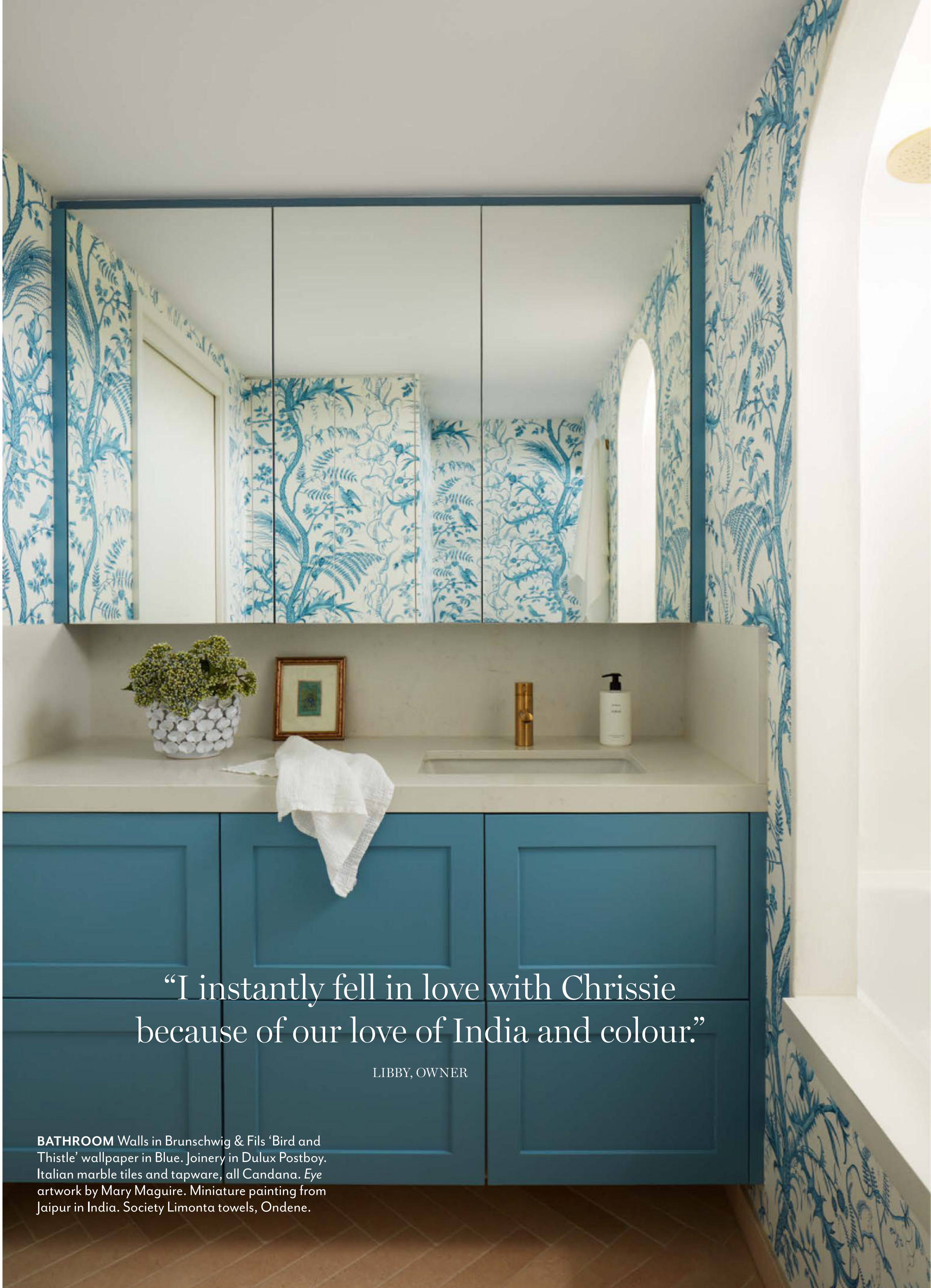
issues around women's economic empowerment, climate and policy. A former BBC photographer, Tom is now a global adviser on conservation.

The jet-setting pair moved into an investment property in the same building when they first came to Australia in 2021. "Every day we would go for a walk and look at apartments and eventually decided on this location, with the view and access to the train station, ferry and up to Woollahra," says Libby. "We just loved it." With the help of Sotheby's, they were able to secure a three-bedroom apartment on the 16th floor, but it needed work. "Nothing had been done since it was built – it was crusty, filthy and disgusting so we gutted it, rewired and replumbed everything, the only thing we didn't do is put in new windows," she says.

Chrissie had helped with the renovation and furnishing of the couple's investment property so when it came to this one, they looked no further. "I instantly fell in love with her because of our love of India and colour," says Libby. "She did downstairs and so when we were doing this one, I said, 'Let's do it together'." The six-month process, with a two-month pause due to Covid, saw one bedroom become a study/guest bedroom with a cleverly concealed queen-size Murphy bed. The other was transformed into a reading nook that flows on from the light-filled living room, thanks to the removal of a wall. "I love the nook," says Libby of the sofa inset into duck-egg blue joinery and ikat-upholstered chairs.

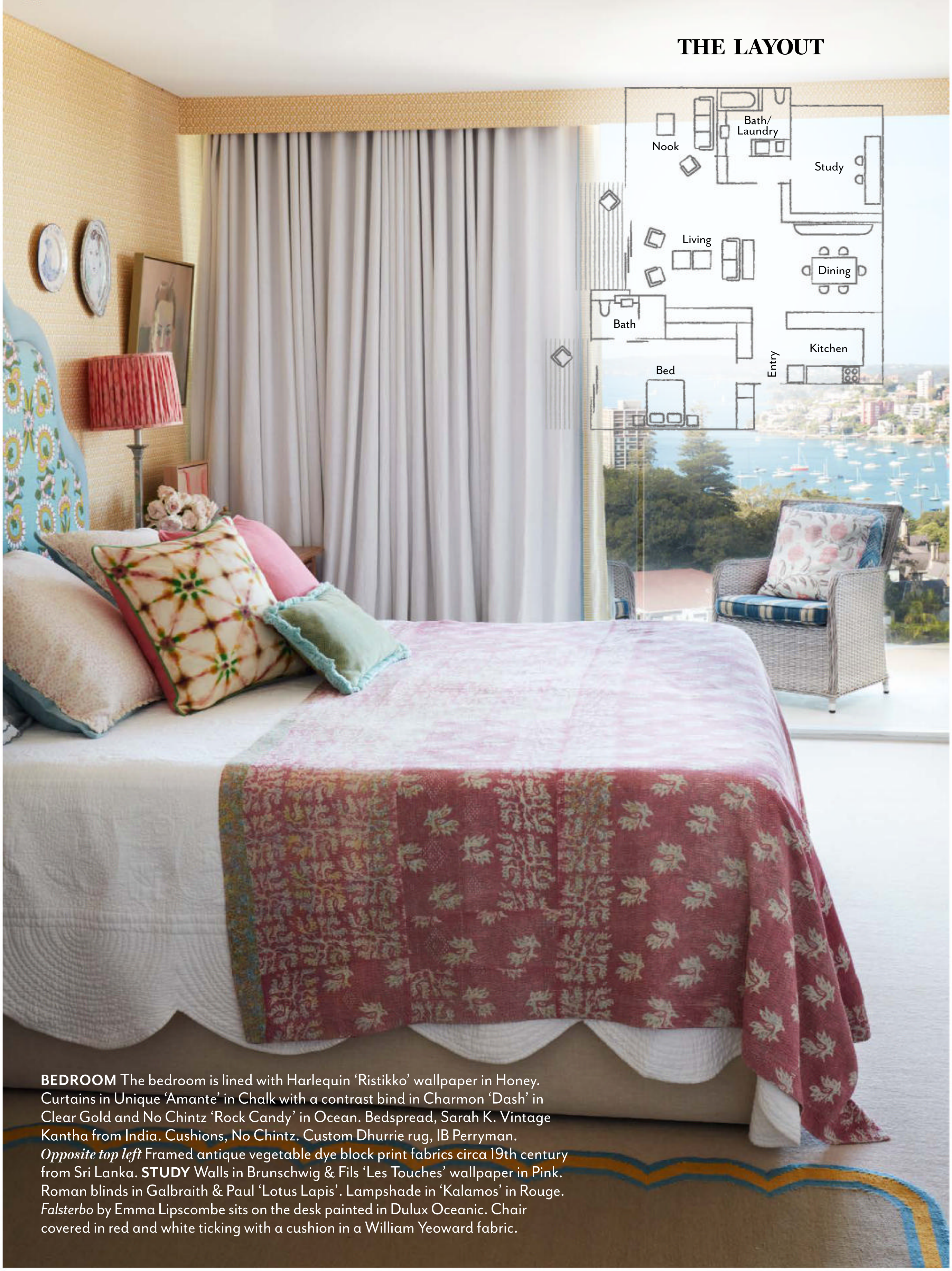
The apartment has so many wonderful moments from the deep green joinery in the entry to the hot pink sofa in the living room and the pretty guest bathroom. "What Chrissie was so brilliant at helping me with was the transition of the colours in all the cabinetry," says Libby. And in fact, the colour shifts seamlessly from green to blue throughout all the spaces, bar the main bedroom, where yellow wallpaper is juxtaposed with a pink bedhead. "The main bedroom is very feminine with all the female art, the ceramic plates and the self-portraits by artists from Pakistan, Australia and England," she says.

While the couple had lived an exciting life overseas for many years, when it came to their new abode, almost all furnishings and art was sourced locally. "We brought everything back, auctioned it off, and started afresh," says Libby indicating a scattering of art and artifacts, ▶



> “I instantly fell in love with Chrissie because of our love of India and colour.”
>
> LIBBY, OWNER

BATHROOM Walls in Brunschwig & Fils ‘Bird and Thistle’ wallpaper in Blue. Joinery in Dulux Postboy. Italian marble tiles and tapware, all Candana. *Eye* artwork by Mary Maguire. Miniature painting from Jaipur in India. Society Limonta towels, Ondene.

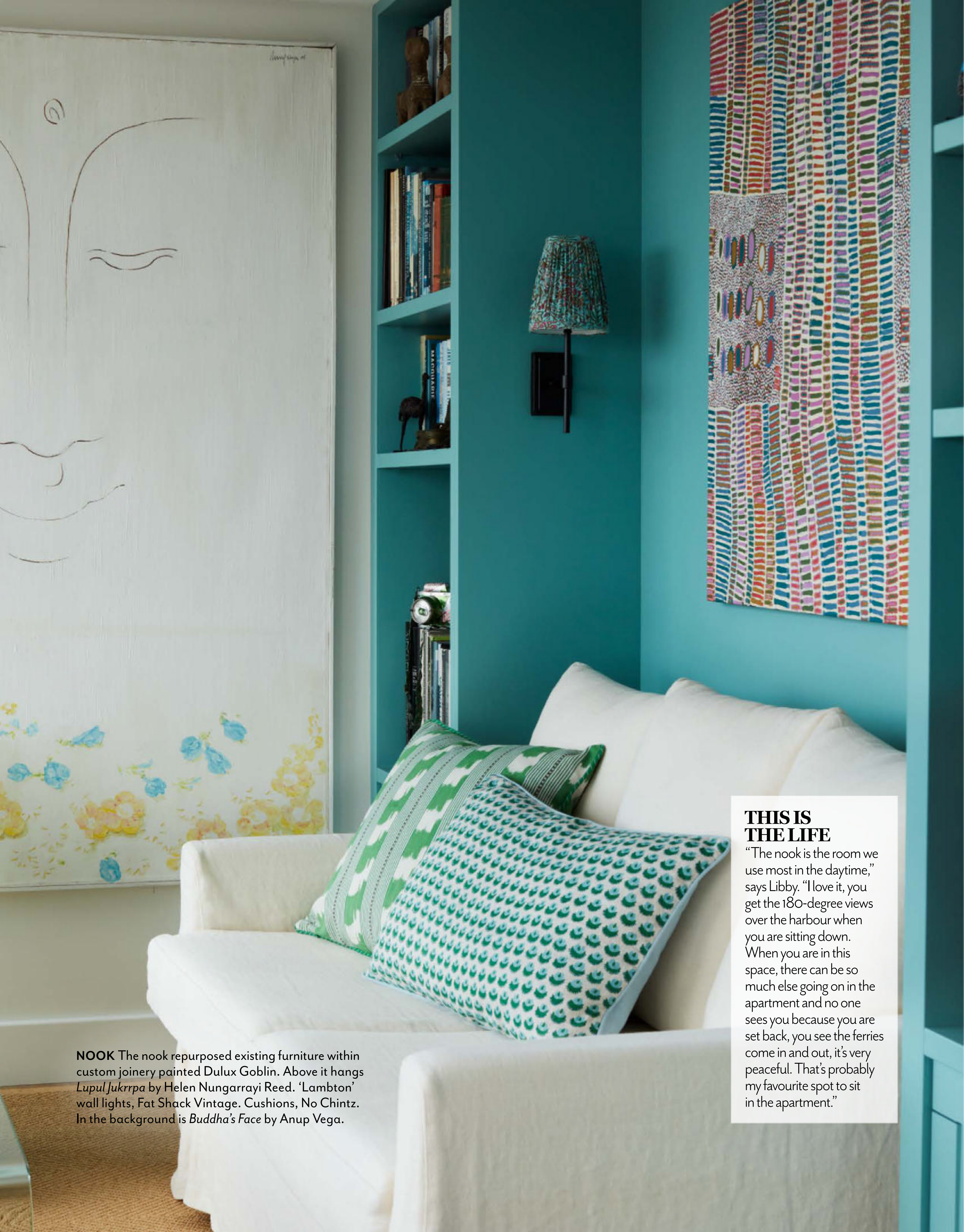


BEDROOM The bedroom is lined with Harlequin 'Ristikko' wallpaper in Honey. Curtains in Unique 'Amante' in Chalk with a contrast bind in Charmon 'Dash' in Clear Gold and No Chintz 'Rock Candy' in Ocean. Bedspread, Sarah K. Vintage Kantha from India. Cushions, No Chintz. Custom Dhurrie rug, IB Perryman. *Opposite top left* Framed antique vegetable dye block print fabrics circa 19th century from Sri Lanka. **STUDY** Walls in Brunschwig & Fils 'Les Touches' wallpaper in Pink. Roman blinds in Galbraith & Paul 'Lotus Lapis'. Lampshade in 'Kalamos' in Rouge. *Falsterbo* by Emma Lipscombe sits on the desk painted in Dulux Oceanic. Chair covered in red and white ticking with a cushion in a William Yeoward fabric.

a leather pouf and a couple of chairs from Sri Lanka as being the few remaining pieces. Cleverly designed custom joinery makes the most of the space, but it's layered with artfully chosen pieces. "The rug, which is made from Indian sari woven into wool, I just love, it's so reminiscent of India and Sri Lanka where we lived," says Libby. Art really makes the spaces sing. "We wanted to collect Australian art," explains Libby. With barely an empty wall, highlights include works by Angelina Karadada Boona, Katherine Hattam and Tracey Ramsay.

Colourful and exotic, the resulting space reflects Tom and Libby's lives. The jewel-like red and blue study, another favourite space of Libby's, doubles as a spare bedroom and is used almost on a weekly basis for their many visiting friends. "The bedroom cupboards were designed for Tom, he wanted to fit his camera equipment and shirts, and because he travels so much his suitcase slides in and slides out," says Libby. Soon to arrive is a set of Kit Kemp dining chairs, a riot of colour and pattern in hot pink and orange that might be polarising for some but will suit this light-filled and joyful apartment to a tee. This is not a paint by numbers home, it is one where design decisions and the curation of art and furniture have meaning and as such it has soul. ▶

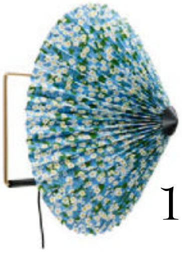
No Chintz: *nochintz.com.*



NOOK The nook repurposed existing furniture within custom joinery painted Dulux Goblin. Above it hangs *Lupul Jukrrpa* by Helen Nungarrayi Reed. 'Lambton' wall lights, Fat Shack Vintage. Cushions, No Chintz. In the background is *Buddha's Face* by Anup Vega.

THIS IS THE LIFE

"The nook is the room we use most in the daytime," says Libby. "I love it, you get the 180-degree views over the harbour when you are sitting down. When you are in this space, there can be so much else going on in the apartment and no one sees you because you are set back, you see the ferries come in and out, it's very peaceful. That's probably my favourite spot to sit in the apartment."



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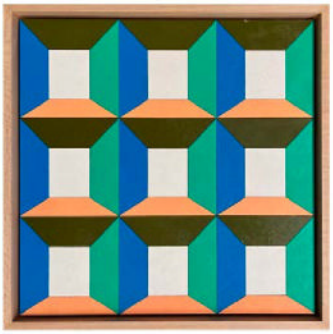
THE SOURCE

Combine colour, pattern and texture for interiors with a joyful, uplifting ambience.



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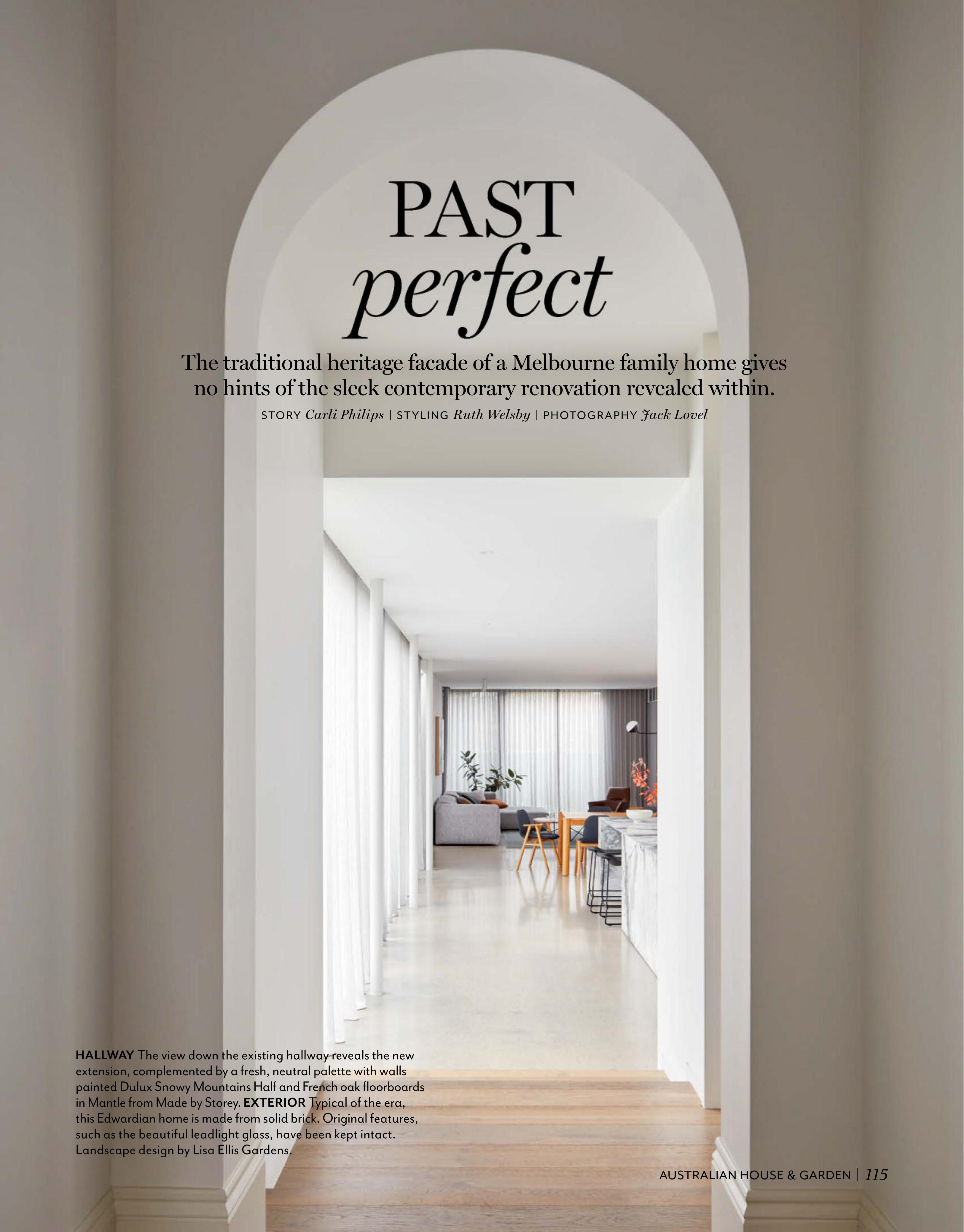
Produced by Andrea Healy.

1 Hay x Liberty 'Matin' **wall lamp** in Blue, $494, Finnish Design Shop. **2** 'Evie' **table lamp** in Cherry, $249, Paola & Joy. **3** *Overlooking the courtyard* **artwork** by Emma Lipscombe, POA, emmalipscombe.com. **4** 'Pearl U' **vase** in Teal and Jade, $199, Fazeek. **5** 'Ocelot' **cushion cover** in Forest, $172, and **6** 'Absurd' **cushion cover** in Jade, $172, both No Chintz. **7** 'Jaipur' **coverlet** in Rosewater and Merlot, $399, Aura Home. **8** 'Cin Cin' rainbow **tumblers**, $100/four, Fenton & Fenton. **9** Harley three-seater **sofa** in Stella Snow, $3499, OZ Design. **10** 'Babylon' **rug** (300x200cm), $2400, The Rug Est. **H&G**

PAST *perfect*

The traditional heritage facade of a Melbourne family home gives no hints of the sleek contemporary renovation revealed within.

STORY *Carli Philips* | STYLING *Ruth Welsby* | PHOTOGRAPHY *Jack Lovel*



HALLWAY The view down the existing hallway reveals the new extension, complemented by a fresh, neutral palette with walls painted Dulux Snowy Mountains Half and French oak floorboards in Mantle from Made by Storey. **EXTERIOR** Typical of the era, this Edwardian home is made from solid brick. Original features, such as the beautiful leadlight glass, have been kept intact. Landscape design by Lisa Ellis Gardens.

Melbourne's Gascoigne Estate – a heritage precinct that was subdivided in the late 19th century into generous plots of land – features row after row of magnificently maintained Edwardian homes nestled within wide, tree-lined streets.

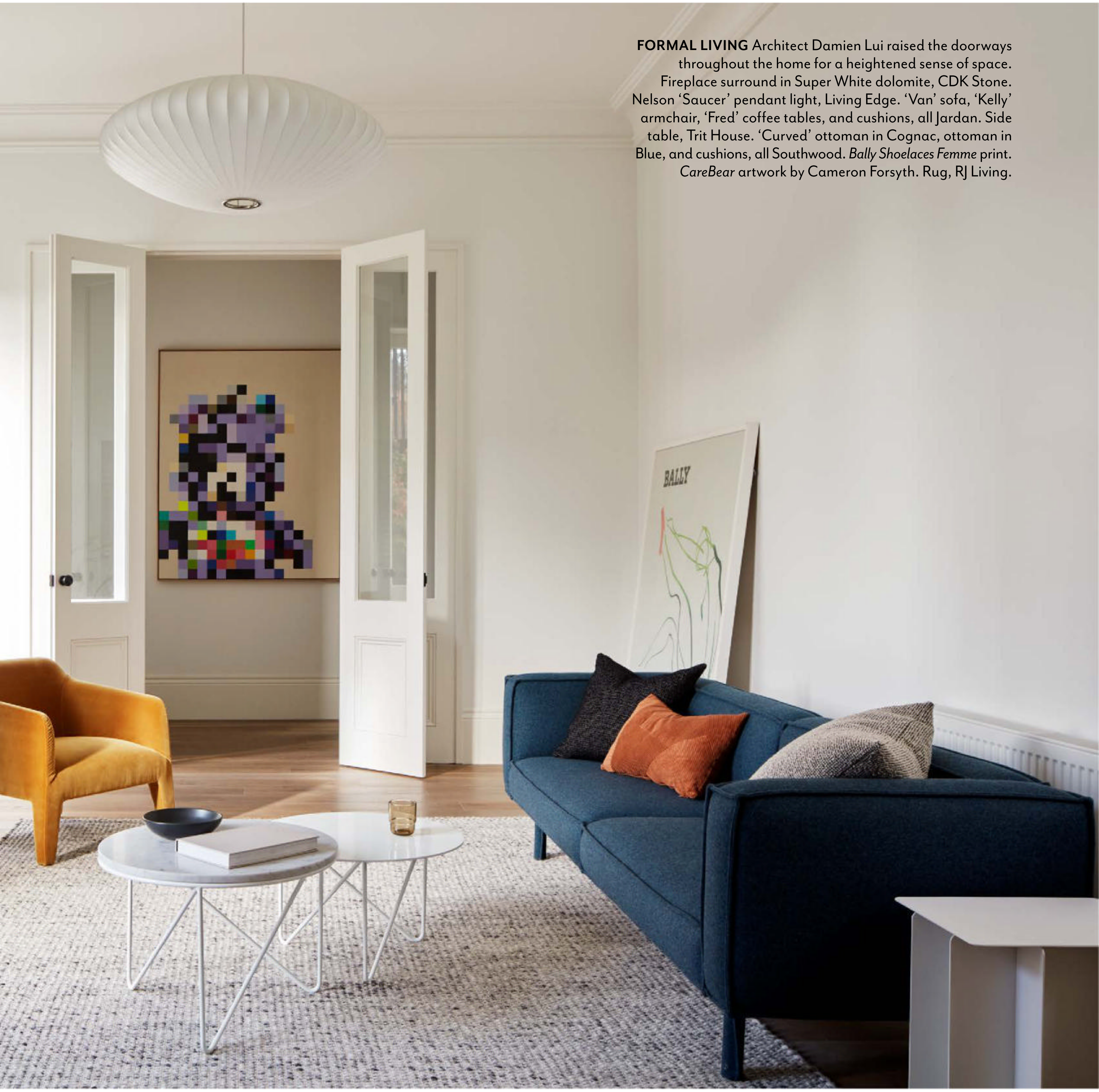
Over the years, strict heritage laws have prevented any major changes to their facades and viewing the streetscape feels like stepping back in time. As beautiful now as when they were built a century ago, these highly coveted, mostly brick homes hum with architectural beauty and integrity.

Lucky enough to find theirs off market, the owners of this home were smitten by its period features: high ceilings, archways and leadlight windows. Inside, however, it was tired and aching for some love and attention. Ready to renovate, they engaged architect Damien Lui of HONTO architecture to transform the house into a place of light and laughter for their young, social family.

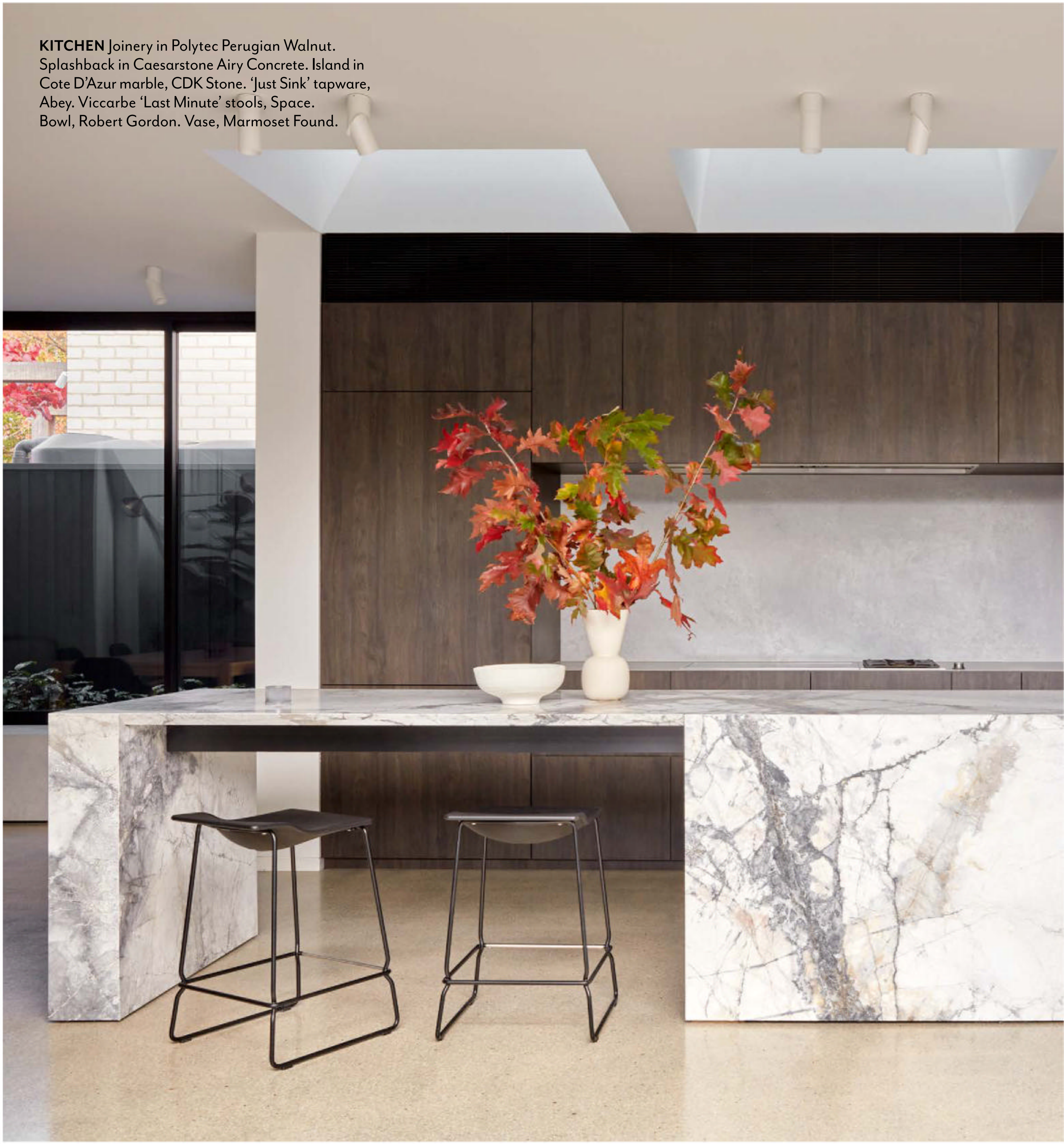
With two children, the non-negotiables were largely kid-centric: space for a pool, a trampoline, separate zones for playing and a butler's pantry to store plenty of supplies for growing boys and for entertaining friends and family. Undercover parking with direct access into the house was also a must. Overall, the brief was to restore the existing building and add a modern extension with space for large family gatherings.

A hallway splices through the centre of the floorplan, with a primary wing and ensuite running the whole length of the house. On the opposite side of the corridor is the guest bedroom followed by a generous sitting room that has new, double-door access to a courtyard where there was once a bedroom. Glass was chosen for the doors to invite increased light into the building.

While it was necessary to rebuild the subfloor, the historic front rooms were otherwise in good shape. It was easy to preserve the skirtings and cornices, but Damien did make architectural changes when it came to the ▶



FORMAL LIVING Architect Damien Lui raised the doorways throughout the home for a heightened sense of space. Fireplace surround in Super White dolomite, CDK Stone. Nelson 'Saucer' pendant light, Living Edge. 'Van' sofa, 'Kelly' armchair, 'Fred' coffee tables, and cushions, all Jardan. Side table, Trit House. 'Curved' ottoman in Cognac, ottoman in Blue, and cushions, all Southwood. *Bally Shoelaces Femme* print. *CareBear* artwork by Cameron Forsyth. Rug, RJ Living.



KITCHEN Joinery in Polytec Perugian Walnut. Splashback in Caesarstone Airy Concrete. Island in Cote D'Azur marble, CDK Stone. 'Just Sink' tapware, Abey. Viccarbe 'Last Minute' stools, Space. Bowl, Robert Gordon. Vase, Marmoset Found.

lifting the internal door openings, increasing their height from 2.1 to 2.7 metres. To alleviate the need for a traditional architrave, he customised a modern hardwood door jamb and head to the door frames.

"There are new additions but they are subtly revealed," says Damien, referring to the fireplace stone which has been contemporised in height, shape and material in an oversized mass of smoky silver stone. He brought some personality into the spaces by introducing autumnal colours with shots of blue that are especially effective against a backdrop of pared-back colour.

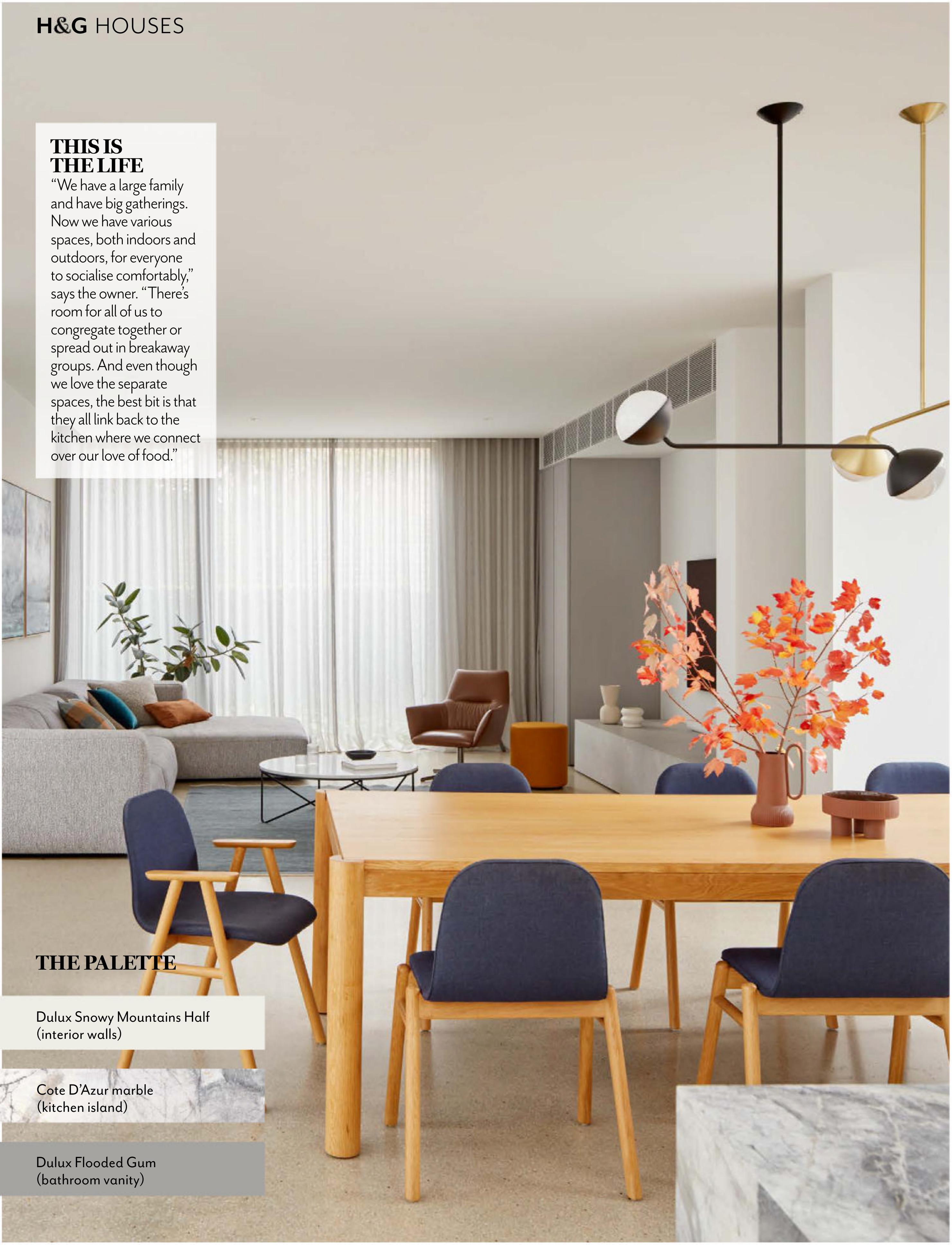
The contemporary extension is the centre of family life with a large open-plan kitchen-dining and a living zone for the kids. While it wasn't in the original plan, Damien carved out a study nook off to one side that adjoins the living room like a small breakout zone, so the adults can remain connected to the kids but also have some personal space to themselves.

"It wasn't in the initial brief but we're not sure how we could live without it now," says one of the owners. "And we're so impressed that it was incorporated into the design well into the build stage. It's a testament to the great relationship between Damien and our builders. It also demonstrates how passionate Damien and his team were for our home."

The first floor addition sits at the back of the site behind the home's original ridge line so that it's invisible from the street. Built with charred timber battens and concrete, it's strikingly modern and minimalistic in comparison, with a sharp monochromatic palette. "The bedrooms sit over the garage, laundry and living room so that we could keep the front Edwardian and not overcrowd the heritage fabric," says Damien.

From the front to the back, the old to the new, the house culminates in a courtyard and pool loved by everyone, in particular the kids. Mission accomplished. ▶

HONTO architecture: *hontoarchitecture.com.au.*
SICON: *sicon.com.au.*
Lisa Ellis Gardens: *lisaellisgardens.com.au.*



THIS IS THE LIFE

"We have a large family and have big gatherings. Now we have various spaces, both indoors and outdoors, for everyone to socialise comfortably," says the owner. "There's room for all of us to congregate together or spread out in breakaway groups. And even though we love the separate spaces, the best bit is that they all link back to the kitchen where we connect over our love of food."

THE PALETTE

Dulux Snowy Mountains Half
(interior walls)

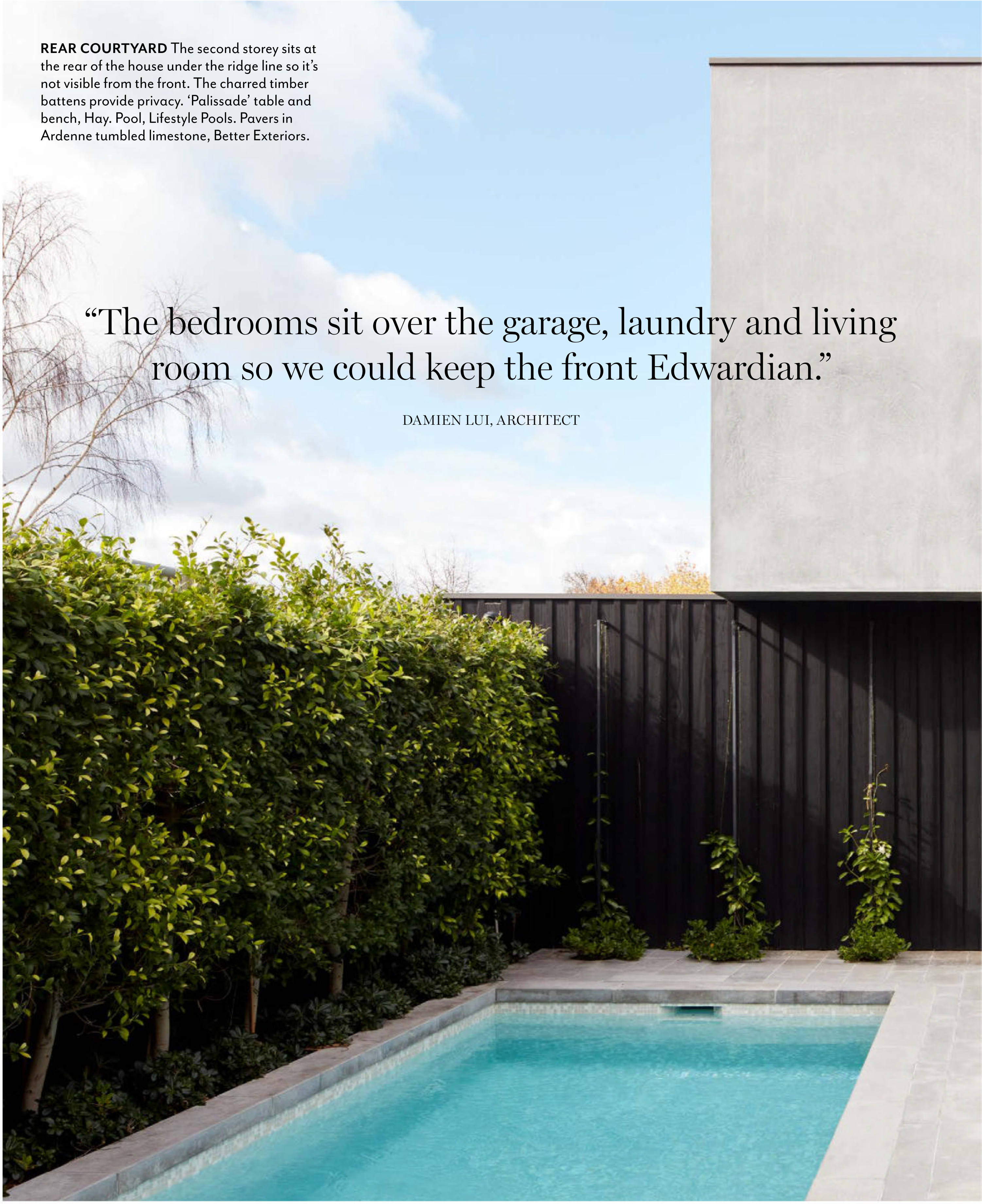
Cote D'Azur marble
(kitchen island)

Dulux Flooded Gum
(bathroom vanity)

“There are new additions but they are subtly revealed.”

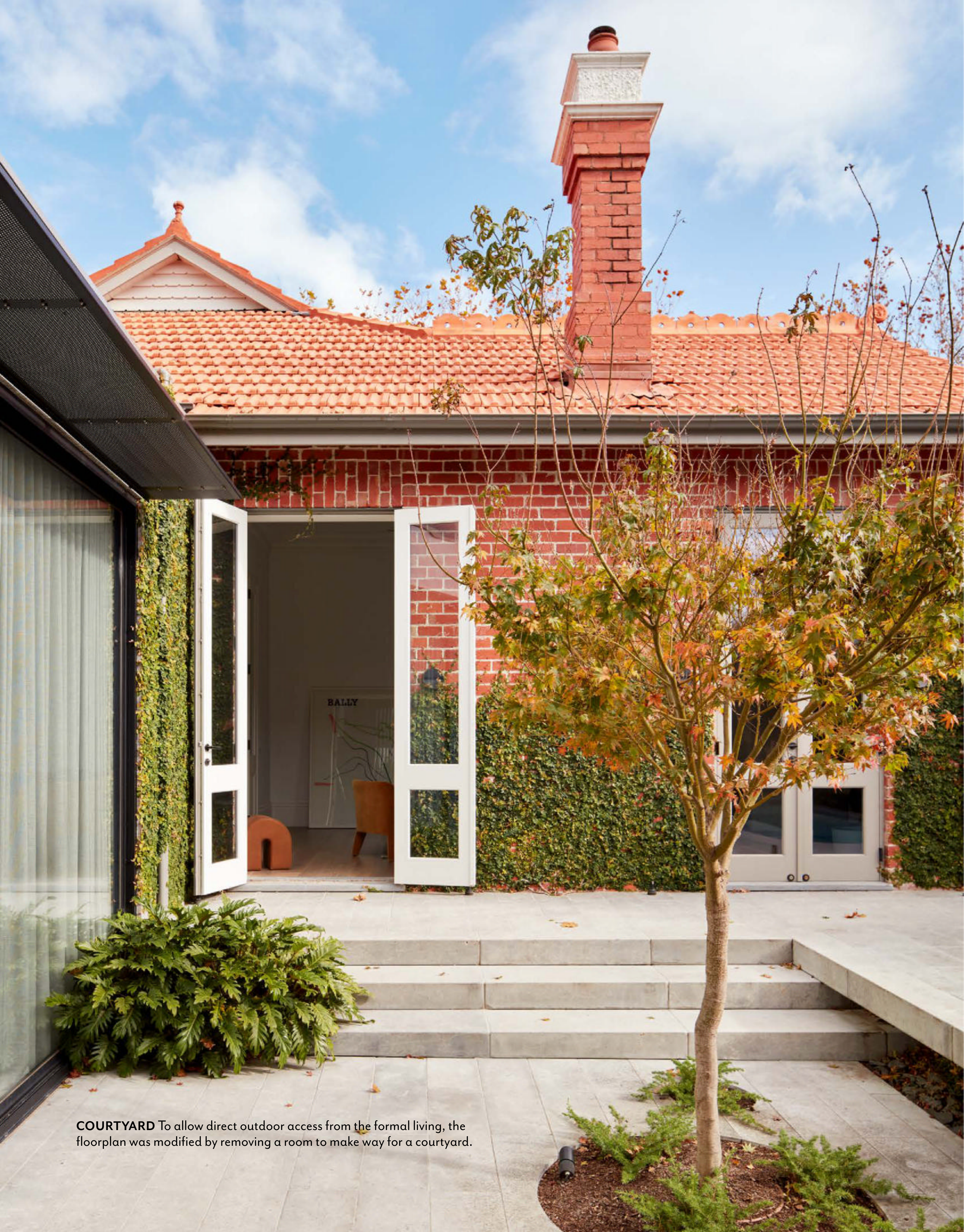
DAMIEN LUI, ARCHITECT

MAIN BEDROOM Fireplace surround in Cote D’Azur, CDK Stone. Bedhead, Heatherly Design. Side table, Hay. Bed linen, Sheridan. **ENSUITE** Vanity joinery painted Dulux Flooded Gum. Benchtop in Silver Galaxy dolomite, Aristocratic Stone. Wall and floor tiles in honed Silver Galaxy dolomite, Attila. ‘Barwon’ teardrop bath and ‘Via Tortola’ tapware, all Abey. ‘Line’ wall light, Snelling Studio. **DINING/LIVING** ‘Jolly’ pendant light, Cult. ‘Huxley’ dining table, ‘Bay’ dining chairs, sofa and armchair, all Jardan. Ceramic vessel, Southwood. Polished concrete floor, Metro Mix. Artworks above sofa by Prue Clay.



REAR COURTYARD The second storey sits at the rear of the house under the ridge line so it's not visible from the front. The charred timber battens provide privacy. 'Palissade' table and bench, Hay. Pool, Lifestyle Pools. Pavers in Ardenne tumbled limestone, Better Exteriors.

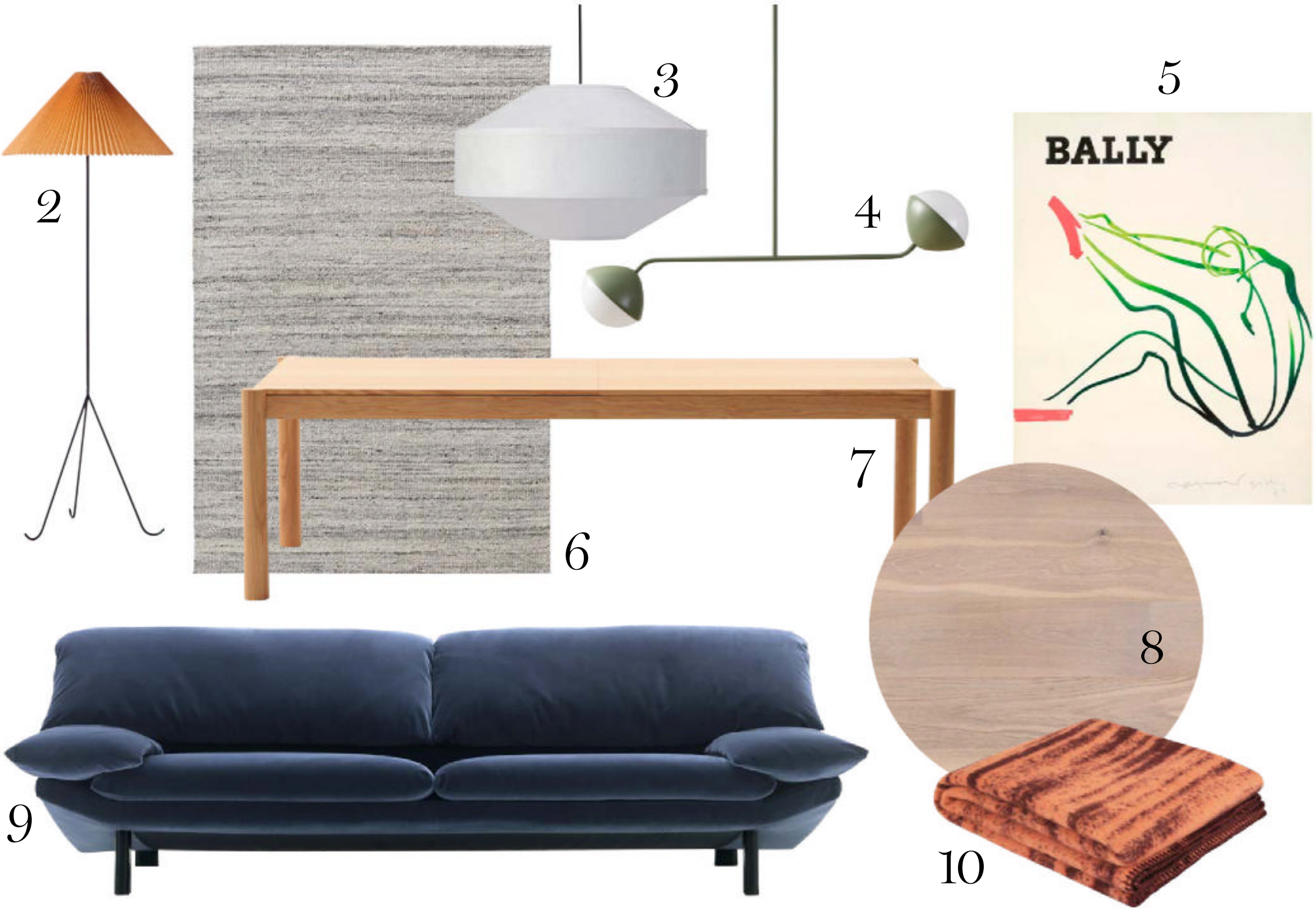
> "The bedrooms sit over the garage, laundry and living room so we could keep the front Edwardian."
>
> DAMIEN LUI, ARCHITECT



COURTYARD To allow direct outdoor access from the formal living, the floorplan was modified by removing a room to make way for a courtyard.

THE SOURCE

Simple sculptural forms, timber tones and a splash of decadence bring past and present together seamlessly.



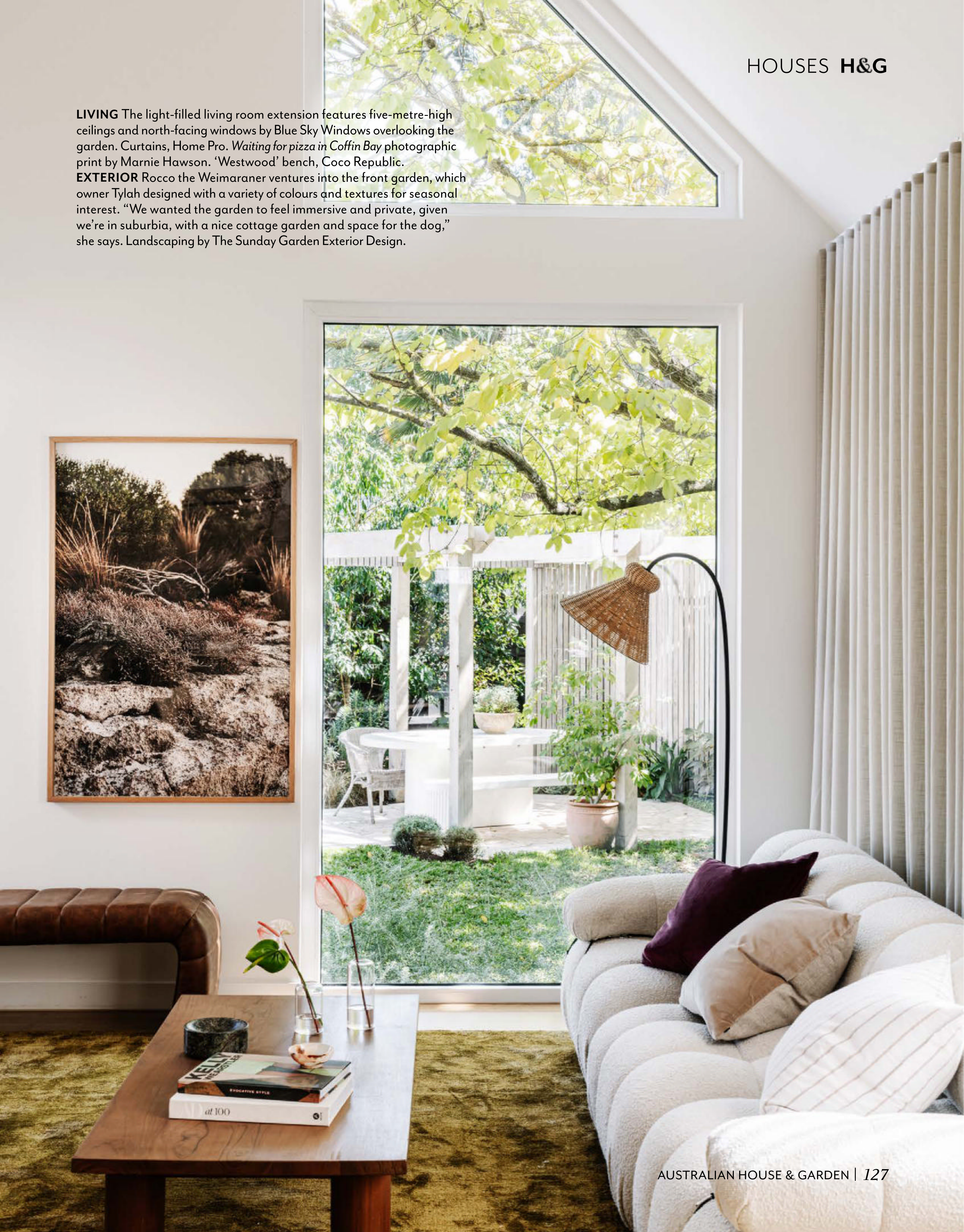
1 Kristina Dam curved **ottoman** in Light Brown leather, $1499, Simple Form. **2** 'Geraldine' **floor lamp**, $2700, Tigmi. **3** 'Kite' **pendant light**, POA, District. **4** 'Jolly' rod **pendant light** in Pale Eucalypt, $1246, Coco Flip. **5** *Ballyshoelaces Femme* **vintage poster** in French Green, $1066, ebay.com.au. **6** 'Bungalow' **rug** in Oyster Shell (400x300cm), $2309, OZ Design. **7** 'Huxley' eight-seater **dining table** in Ash, $7075, Jardan. **8** 'Amalfi' timber **flooring** in Sorrento, POA, Carpet Court. **9** Arflex 'Casablanca' **sofa**, POA, Space. **10** Hem 'Glitch' **throw** in Coral/Rust, POA, District. **H&G**

Produced by Andrea Healy.

FUTURE *proof*

A young couple used Passivhaus design principles to retrofit a 1950s weatherboard and transform it into a modern, energy-efficient home.

STORY *Samantha van Egmond* | STYLING *Cassie Braunthal* | PHOTOGRAPHY *Marnie Hawson*



LIVING The light-filled living room extension features five-metre-high ceilings and north-facing windows by Blue Sky Windows overlooking the garden. Curtains, Home Pro. *Waiting for pizza in Coffin Bay* photographic print by Marnie Hawson. 'Westwood' bench, Coco Republic.
EXTERIOR Rocco the Weimaraner ventures into the front garden, which owner Tylah designed with a variety of colours and textures for seasonal interest. "We wanted the garden to feel immersive and private, given we're in suburbia, with a nice cottage garden and space for the dog," she says. Landscaping by The Sunday Garden Exterior Design.

While passersby admire the refreshed facade and flourishing landscaped garden, the most impressive features of this renovated 1950s weatherboard cottage in Melbourne's leafy east are invisible to the eye. Having undergone a clever and meticulous retrofit using Passivhaus design principles, the home is incredibly quiet inside, with a steady temperature, low humidity, impressively high air quality and barely a hint of dust.

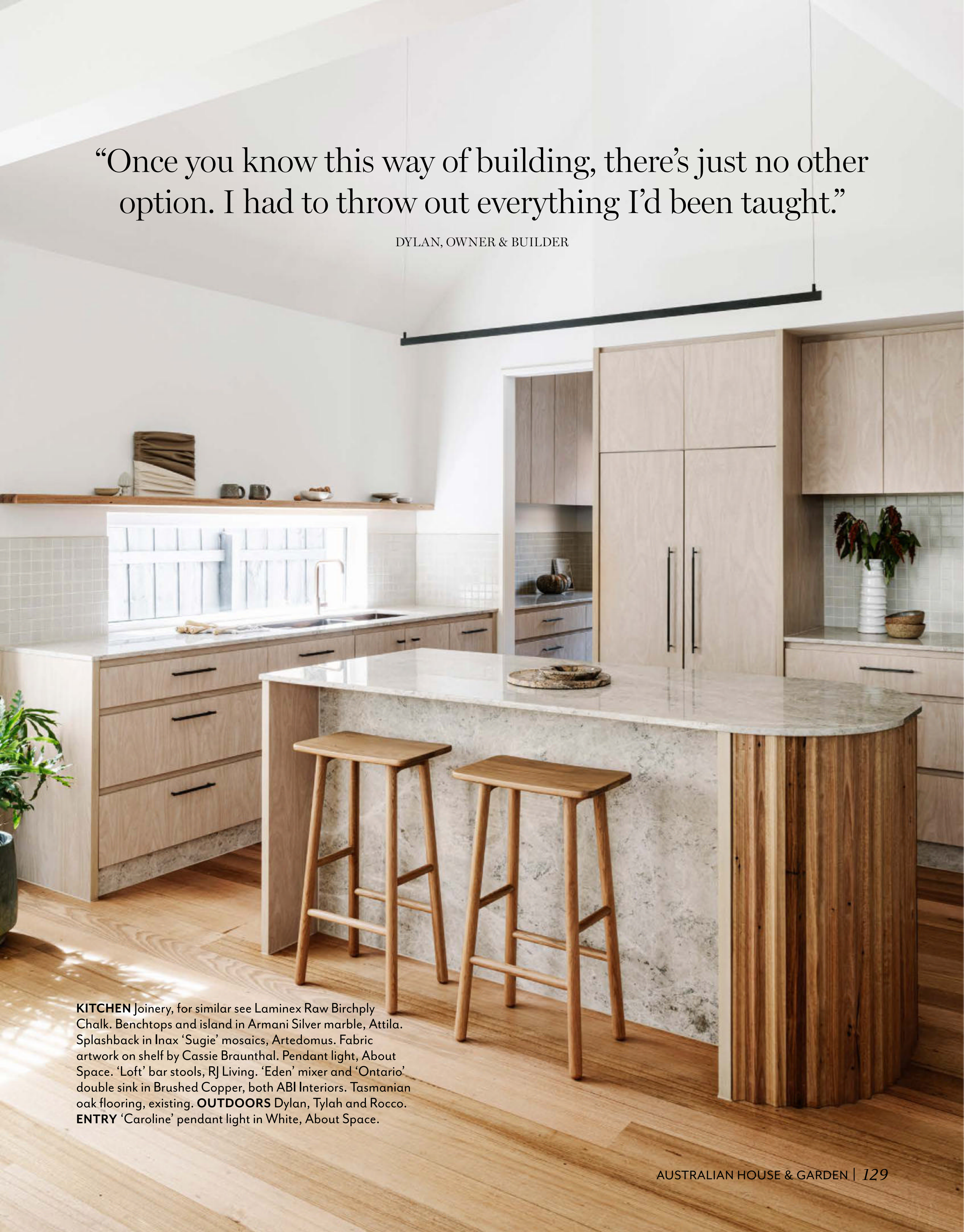
"People might not be able to put their finger on it when they walk into a Passivhaus, but it's the result of many small considerations that add up to make the space feel good," says Dylan Farquhar, founder of Melbourne-based building company Alwyn Projects. Together with his wife, Tylah Ingram, a landscape architect, he has transformed the cottage into a modern, energy-efficient home following the EnerPHit model, a Passivhaus standard intended for refurbishment projects.

A passion for retrofitting wasn't new to Dylan, who had the idea in his head for a long time while working as a carpenter and builder.

"I actually stumbled across a business plan I wrote 10 years ago, fresh out of my apprenticeship, that was about making existing houses energy efficient," he says. "Later I came across Passivhaus and it sounded amazing, and then when I heard about Passivhaus retrofitting, or EnerPHit, it just blew my mind. I thought, this is it, this is what I'm doing!"

The couple bought the property in late 2020 during a Covid-19 lockdown, around the same time Dylan, 32, was finishing his Passivhaus training. "We were spending most of our time at home, so we wanted a space that was comfortable and healthy to live in," says Tylah, 31. As owner builders, they had the opportunity to create and deliver on their own brief, with the home doubling as a project to showcase their skill for repurposing. "It has been a really good tool that allows people to come and experience it for themselves," says Dylan.

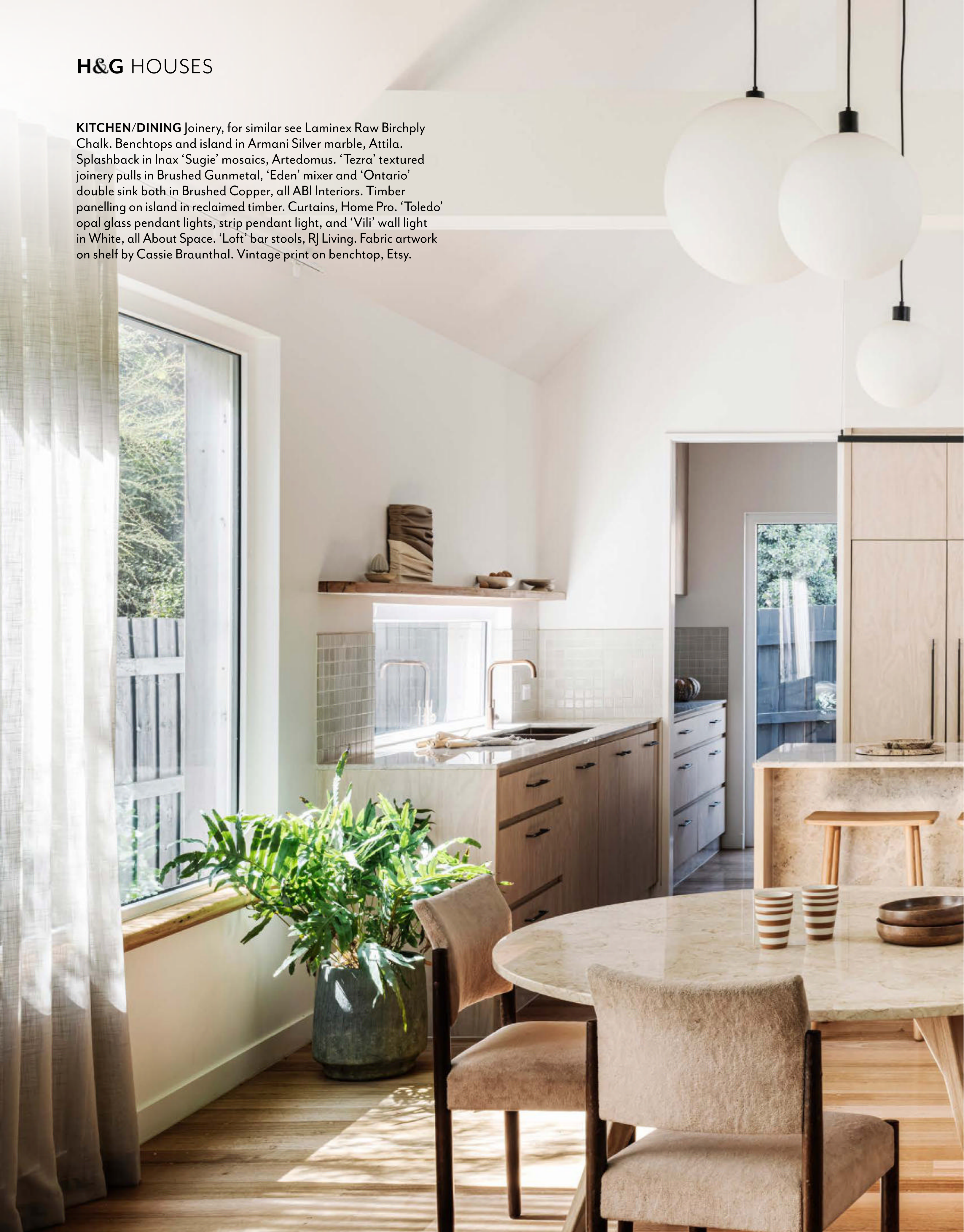
While Passivhaus design offers myriad benefits, EnerPHit takes sustainability to another level by repurposing and reusing the existing structure where possible. "Passivhaus is perfect for operational energy, but it doesn't take into account the embodied energy that goes into new materials; that's where the EnerPHit model is so great," says Dylan, who was able to reuse the original floors as well as repurpose ▶



"Once you know this way of building, there's just no other option. I had to throw out everything I'd been taught."

DYLAN, OWNER & BUILDER

KITCHEN Joinery, for similar see Laminex Raw Birchply Chalk. Benchtops and island in Armani Silver marble, Attila. Splashback in Inax 'Sugie' mosaics, Artedomus. Fabric artwork on shelf by Cassie Braunthal. Pendant light, About Space. 'Loft' bar stools, RJ Living. 'Eden' mixer and 'Ontario' double sink in Brushed Copper, both ABI Interiors. Tasmanian oak flooring, existing. **OUTDOORS** Dylan, Tylah and Rocco. **ENTRY** 'Caroline' pendant light in White, About Space.



KITCHEN/DINING Joinery, for similar see Laminex Raw Birchply Chalk. Benchtops and island in Armani Silver marble, Attila. Splashback in Inax 'Sugie' mosaics, Artedomus. 'Tezra' textured joinery pulls in Brushed Gunmetal, 'Eden' mixer and 'Ontario' double sink both in Brushed Copper, all ABI Interiors. Timber panelling on island in reclaimed timber. Curtains, Home Pro. 'Toledo' opal glass pendant lights, strip pendant light, and 'Vili' wall light in White, all About Space. 'Loft' bar stools, RJ Living. Fabric artwork on shelf by Cassie Braunthal. Vintage print on benchtop, Etsy.

timbers to create bespoke features such as the fluted timber wall and timber vanities.

The pair spent a year upgrading the existing cottage to Passivhaus standards, as well as adding a light-filled living room extension, reconfiguring the layout from three bedrooms to four and revamping the kitchen and bathroom. Working on the calculations with Passivhaus-certified architecture practice Studio Fang, this involved making it completely airtight by wrapping the existing walls and roof with wood fibre insulation and fitting an airtight membrane, and installing a ventilation system to bring in fresh air, reduce humidity and filter out dust and other allergens.

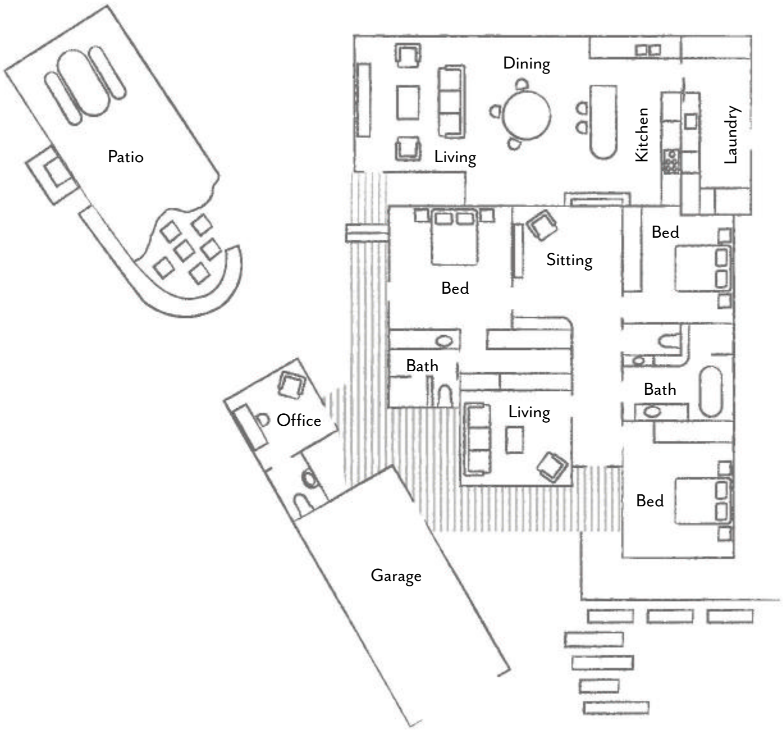
While most conversation around Passivhaus design focuses on energy consumption, improved wellbeing is also a key advantage. “In the past, we’ve had mould outbreaks and the mental impact it was having on me was noticeable,” says Dylan. “Knowing you’ll be living in a healthy environment that has no mould and allergens is a massive benefit.” Adding to this is the sense of calm, says Tylah. “You sleep better because it’s so quiet, and you’re more focused when you’re working from home.”

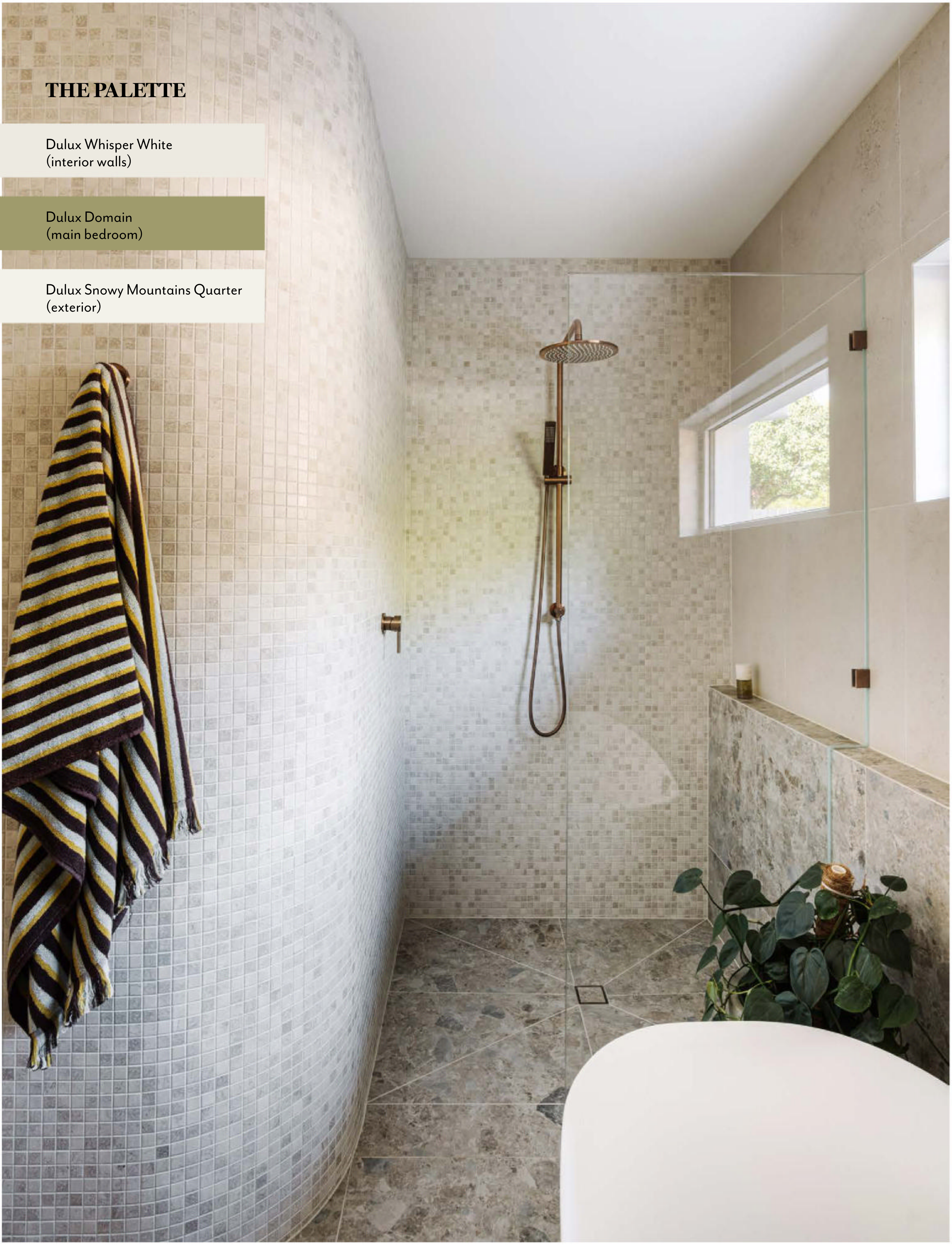
The couple hopes that by sharing their journey they’ll inspire a shift in the way Australians approach construction, and believe the generosity of the Passivhaus community plays a big part in its growth and success. “There are builders talking to builders, architects talking to architects,” says Dylan. “Everyone’s got the same end goal in mind, to reduce carbon usage. The more people living in a Passivhaus home, the better it is for everyone.” ▶

@thehaus.tylah.dylan. ***Alwyn Projects:*** *alwynprojects.com.au.* ***The Sunday Garden Exterior Design:*** *thesundaygarden.com.au.*

EXTERIOR Rocco keeps an eye on the garden. Cladding painted Dulux Snowy Mountains Quarter. 'Beauford' crazy paving, Eco Outdoor. 'Furrow' outdoor bench in White Concrete, RJ Living.

THE LAYOUT


Patio
Dining
Living
Kitchen
Laundry
Bed
Sitting
Bed
Bath
Bath
Office
Living
Bed
Garage



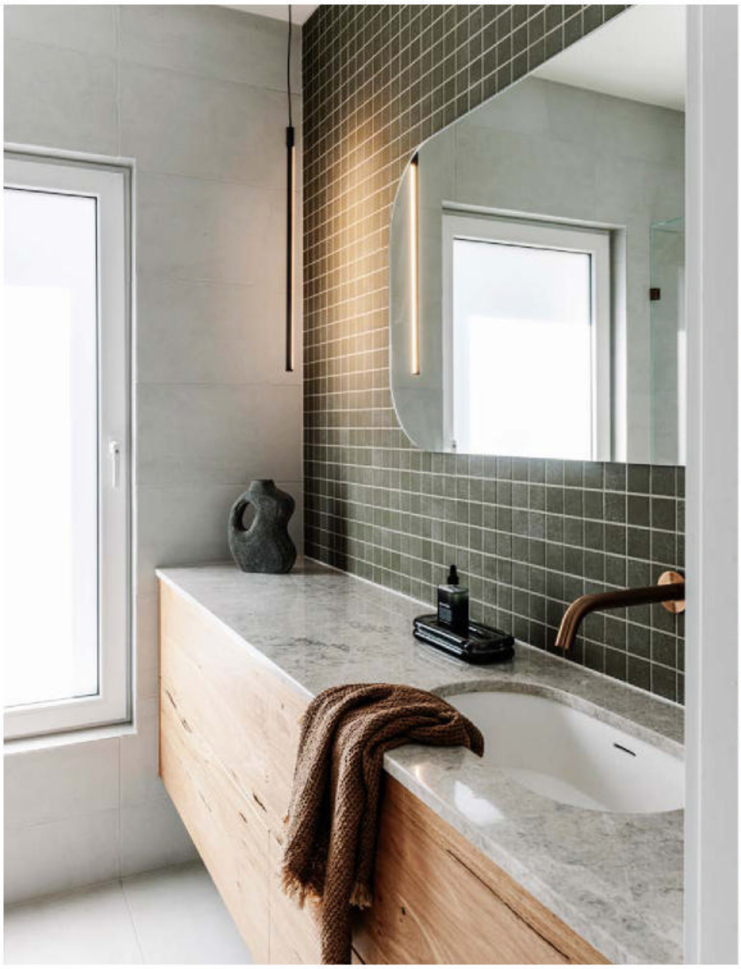
THE PALETTE

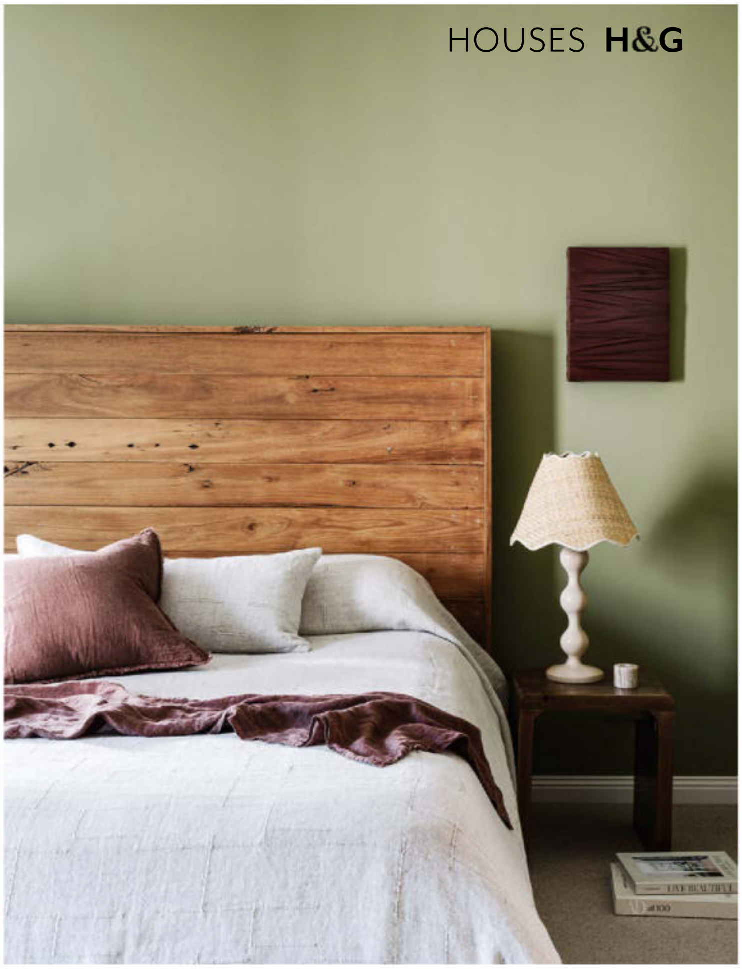
Dulux Whisper White
(interior walls)

Dulux Domain
(main bedroom)

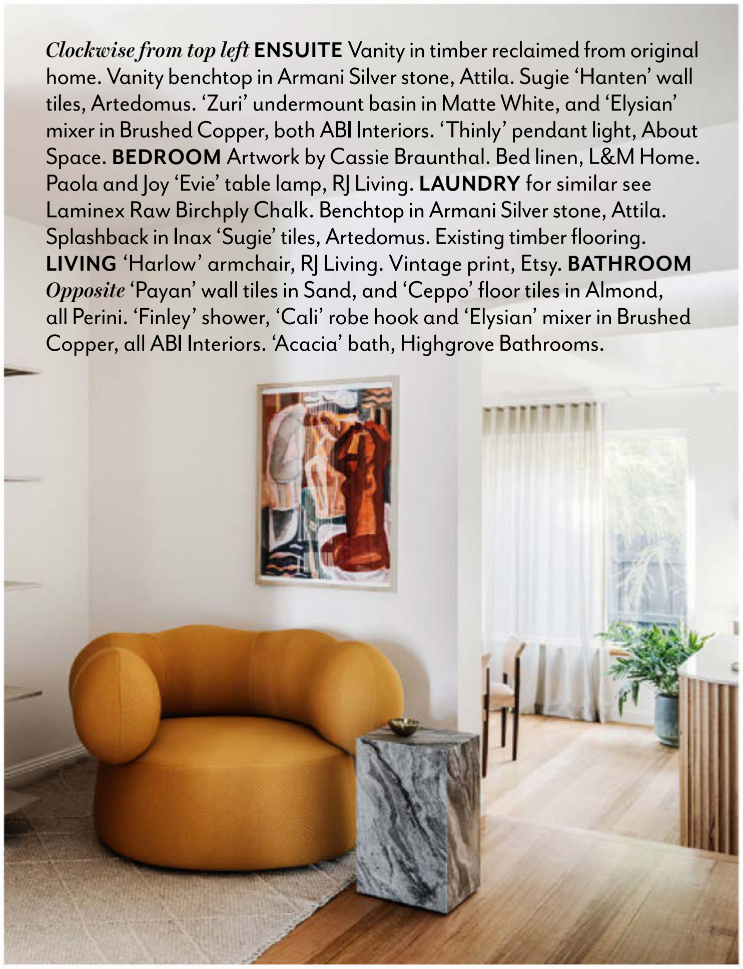
Dulux Snowy Mountains Quarter
(exterior)

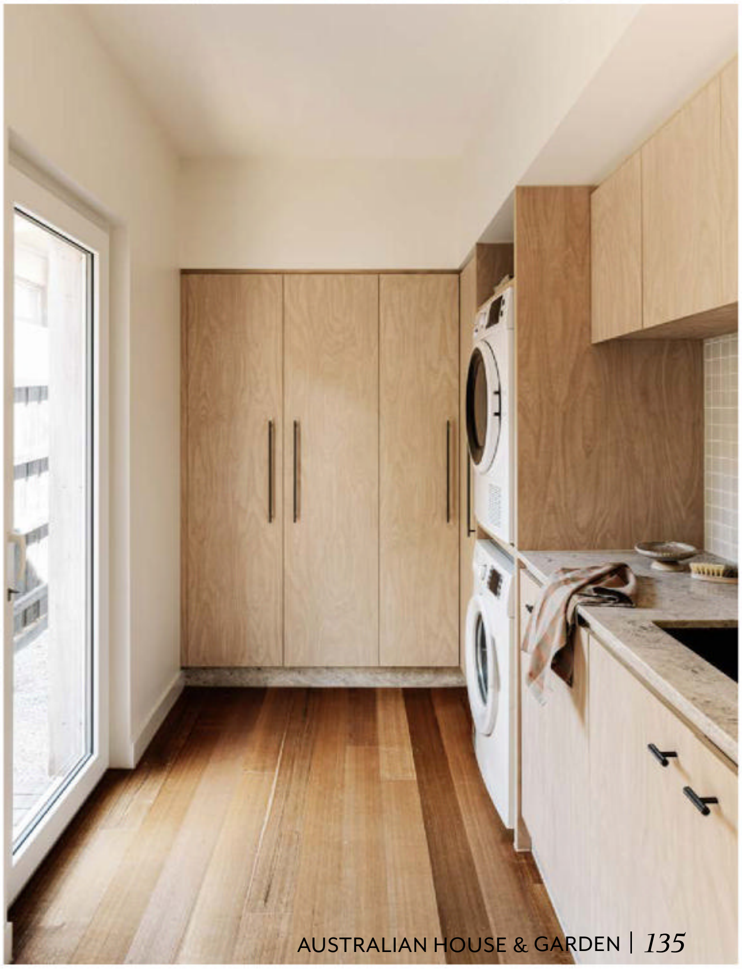
Paint colours are reproduced as accurately as printing processes allow.





Clockwise from top left **ENSUITE** Vanity in timber reclaimed from original home. Vanity benchtop in Armani Silver stone, Attila. Sugie 'Hanten' wall tiles, Artedomus. 'Zuri' undermount basin in Matte White, and 'Elysian' mixer in Brushed Copper, both ABI Interiors. 'Thinly' pendant light, About Space. **BEDROOM** Artwork by Cassie Braunthal. Bed linen, L&M Home. Paola and Joy 'Evie' table lamp, RJ Living. **LAUNDRY** for similar see Laminex Raw Birchply Chalk. Benchtop in Armani Silver stone, Attila. Splashback in Inax 'Sugie' tiles, Artedomus. Existing timber flooring. **LIVING** 'Harlow' armchair, RJ Living. Vintage print, Etsy. **BATHROOM** *Opposite* 'Payan' wall tiles in Sand, and 'Ceppo' floor tiles in Almond, all Perini. 'Finley' shower, 'Cali' robe hook and 'Elysian' mixer in Brushed Copper, all ABI Interiors. 'Acacia' bath, Highgrove Bathrooms.





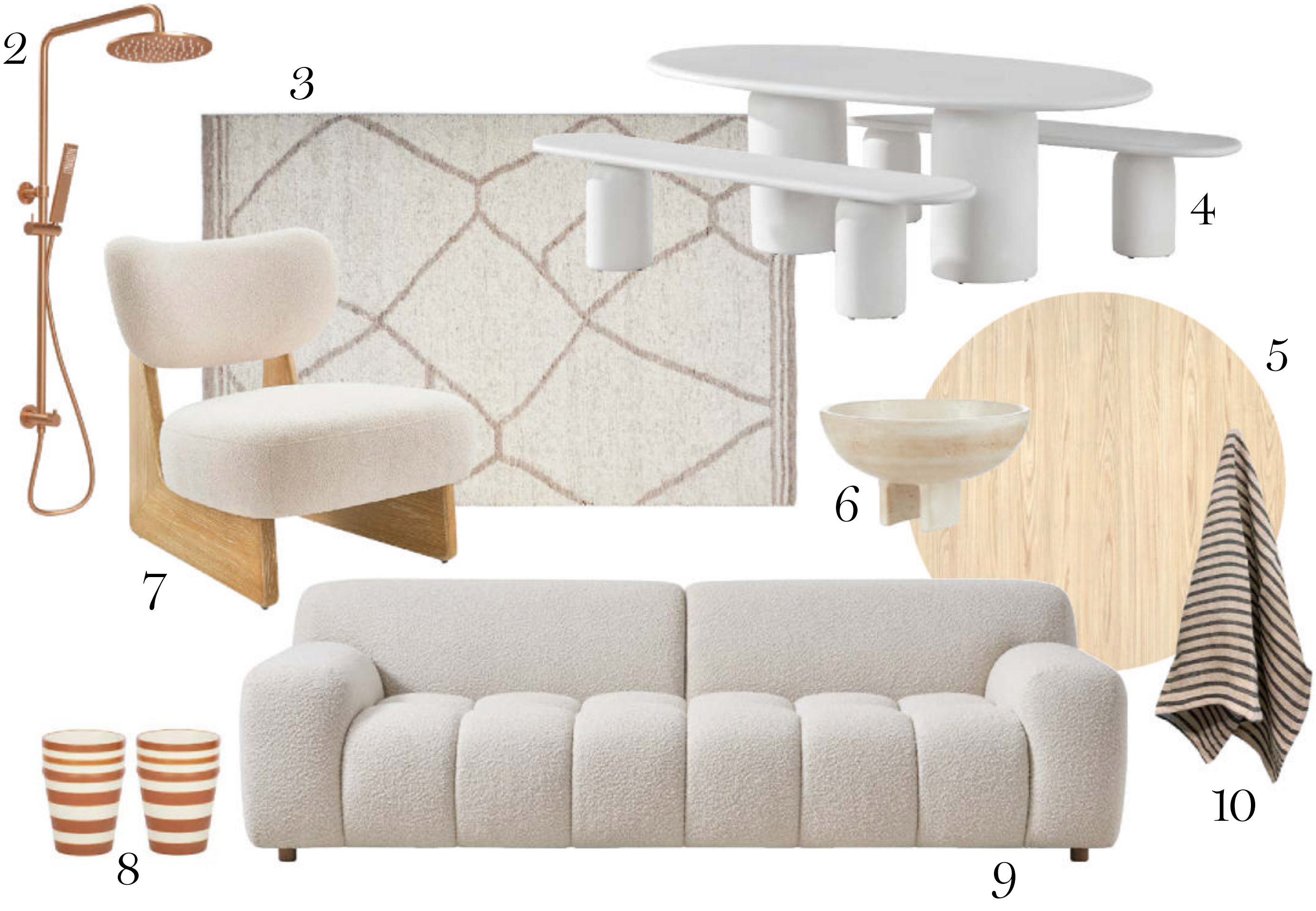
THIS IS THE LIFE

Passivhaus construction focuses on five principles – continuous insulation, bring airtight, high-performance windows and doors, a ventilation system and the elimination of thermal bridges. The result is a home that needs minimal heating or cooling and provides a healthy environment, with benefits including clean, filtered air, steady temperatures, low humidity, and reduced energy use and bills.

COURTYARD 'Furrow' outdoor table and bench in White Concrete, both RJ Living. 'Beauford' crazy paving and Baton 'Pendell' edging pavers, all Eco Outdoor.

THE SOURCE

Create a pared-back, effortless aesthetic with neutral tones, organic textures and curved shapes.



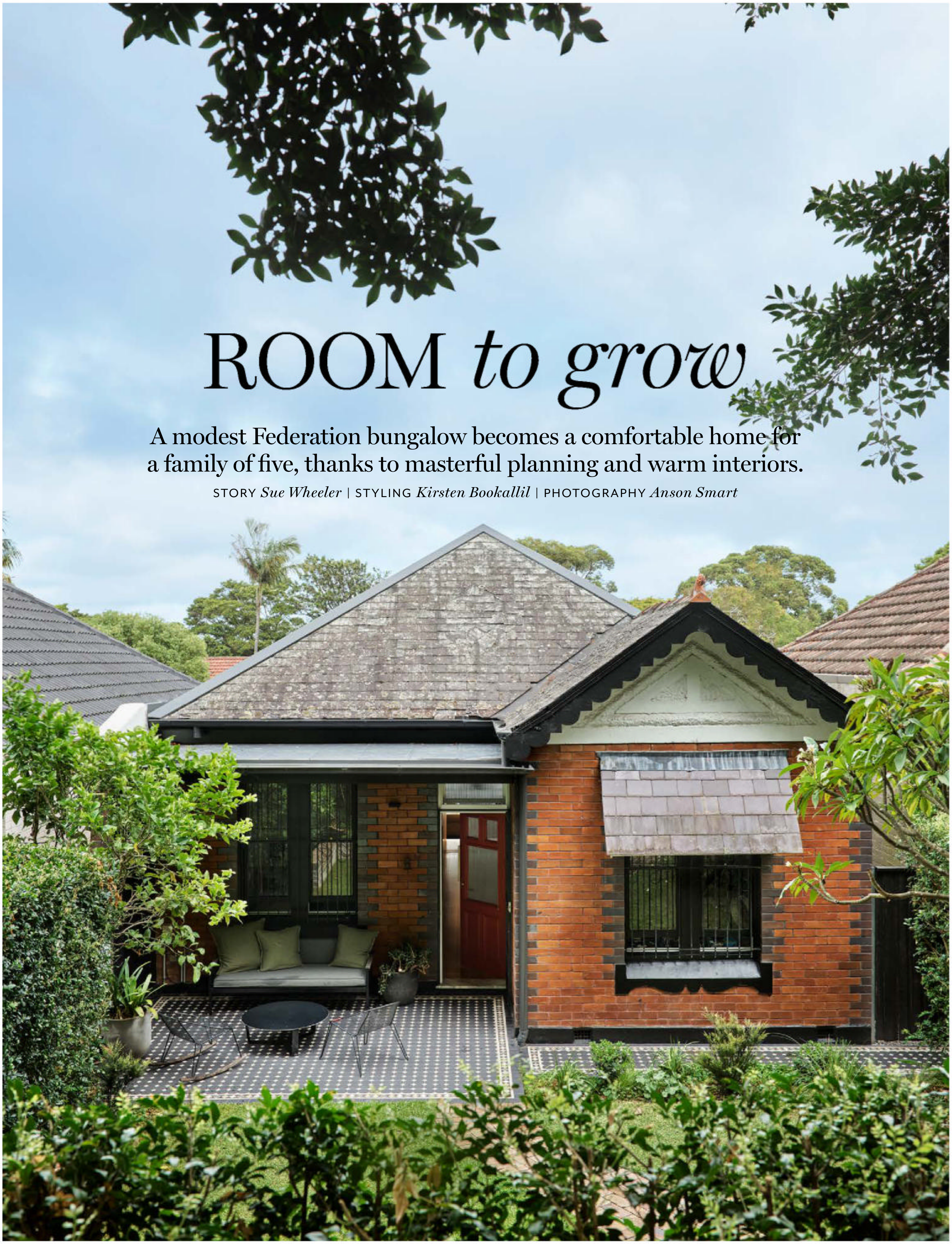
1 ‘Caroline’ **pendant light** in White, $499, About Space. **2** ‘Finley’ **shower rail set** in Brushed Copper, $709, ABI Interiors. **3** ‘Stockholm Alma’ **rug** in Off White, $2399 (380x280cm), OZ Design. **4** ‘Sascha’ **outdoor dining table** in White, $2499, and **bench** in White, $1199, both Domayne. **5** Milkwood AbsoluteGrain **laminate**, POA, Laminex. **6** ‘Napier’ **bowl,** $49.95/large, OZ Design. **7** ‘Solange’ performance **chair** in Chalk Bouclé, $699, Castlery. **8** Aleah ‘Calypso’ **teacup or latte cup**, $13.50, T Bar. **9** ‘Aero’ three-seater **sofa**, $2299, Freedom. **10** ‘Heirloom’ stripe **tea towel** in Charcoal, $24, Aura Home. **H&G**

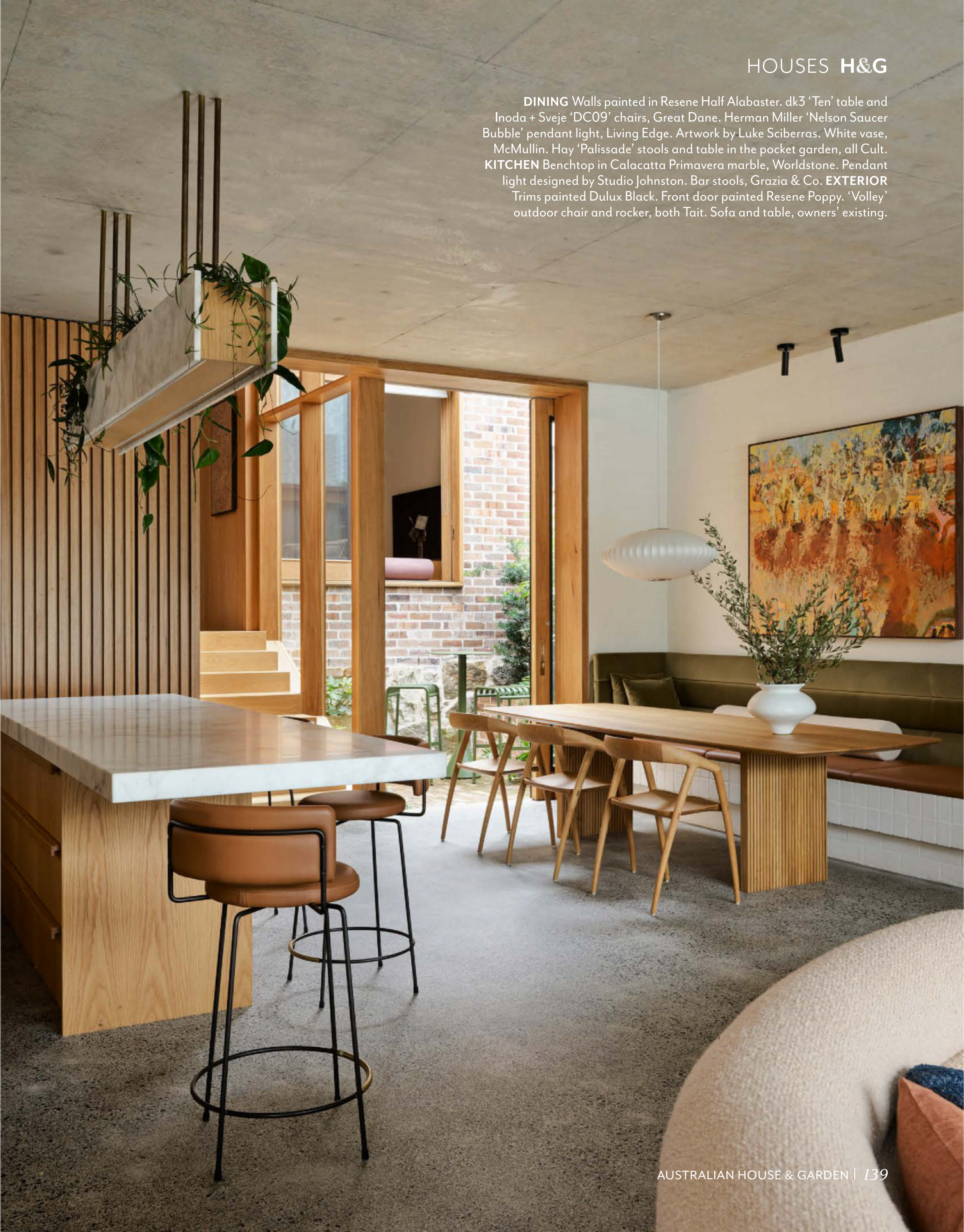
Produced by Andrea Healy.

ROOM *to grow*

A modest Federation bungalow becomes a comfortable home for a family of five, thanks to masterful planning and warm interiors.

STORY *Sue Wheeler* | STYLING *Kirsten Bookallil* | PHOTOGRAPHY *Anson Smart*



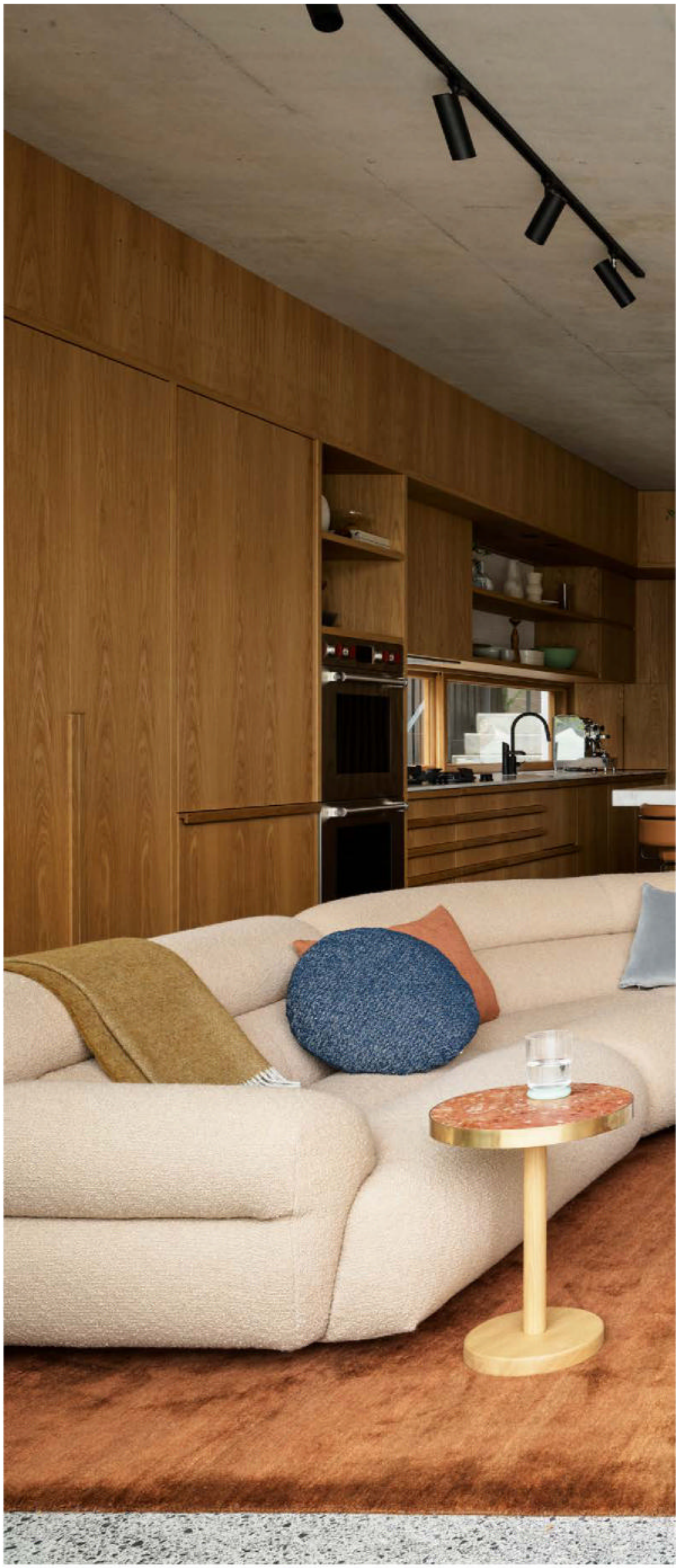


DINING Walls painted in Resene Half Alabaster. dk3 'Ten' table and Inoda + Sveje 'DC09' chairs, Great Dane. Herman Miller 'Nelson Saucer Bubble' pendant light, Living Edge. Artwork by Luke Sciberras. White vase, McMullin. Hay 'Palissade' stools and table in the pocket garden, all Cult. **KITCHEN** Benchtop in Calacatta Primavera marble, Worldstone. Pendant light designed by Studio Johnston. Bar stools, Grazia & Co. **EXTERIOR** Trims painted Dulux Black. Front door painted Resene Poppy. 'Volley' outdoor chair and rocker, both Tait. Sofa and table, owners' existing.

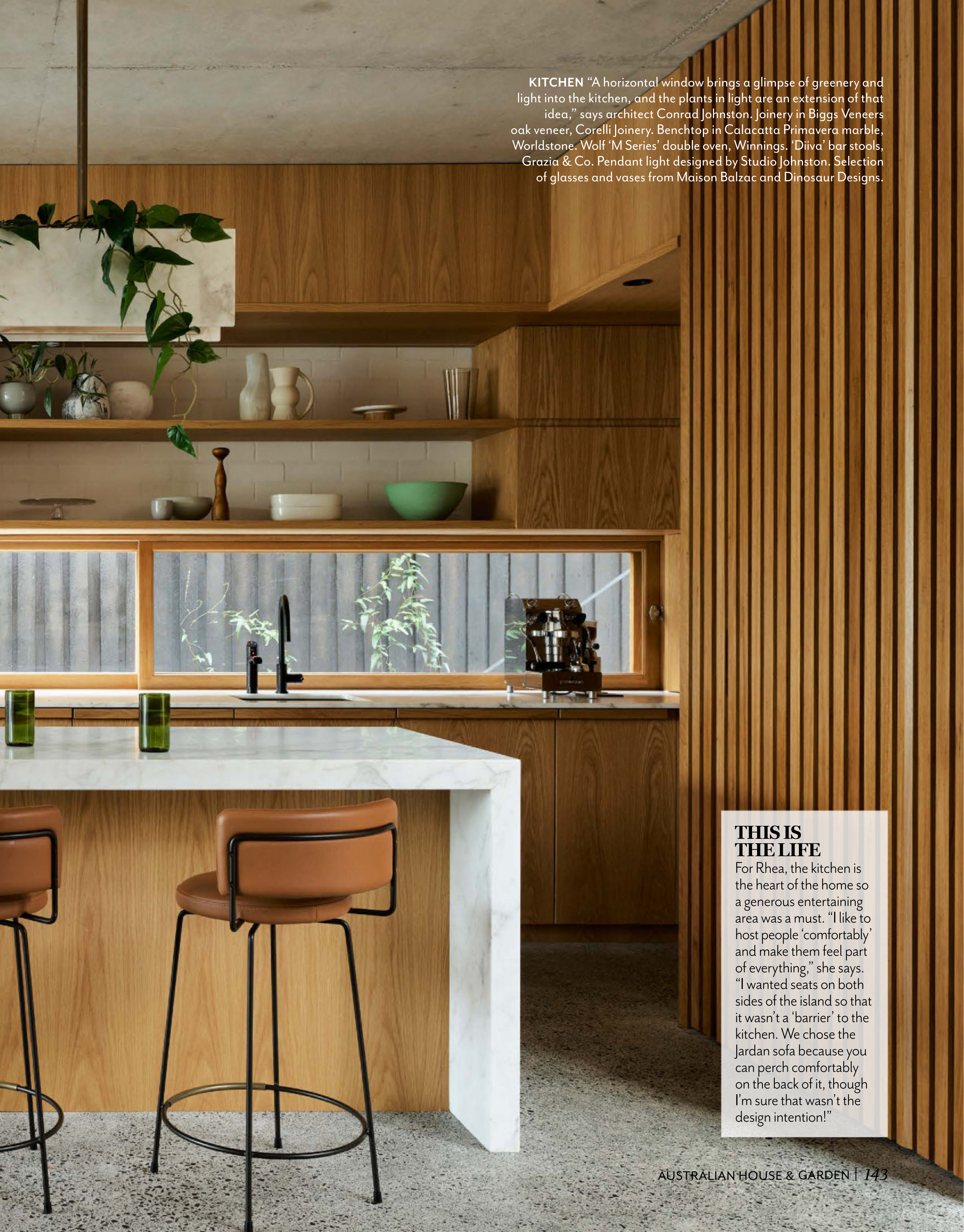
Considering the brief, you might imagine renovating this bungalow in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs requires the skills of a magician, not an architect. In essence, the aim was to build a "big, generous family house with a small house footprint," says architect Conrad Johnston, the founder and director of Studio Johnston. The block is 431 square metres, but a big front garden takes more than its fair share, and height restrictions in this conservation area decreed a modest second storey hidden from street view. "It's not the world's biggest plot and it's small at the back. The challenge was to include what you'd want in a large family home: four bedrooms (with a private master suite), two living areas, a study, laundry, a large open-plan kitchen, dining and living area, a pool and a separate garage and studio." And let's not forget the wine cellar. Active and passive sustainability measures were a priority and included cross ventilation, solar power, hydronic floor heating, rainwater harvesting and cladding from renewable plantation forests.

Owners Rhea and Ollie spent three years looking for the right home in a leafy area they loved, and in 2013 found this circa 1911 house, a deceased estate that hadn't been sold in five decades. They carried out a minor renovation to make it habitable for them and their three boys (now 12, 15 and 18 years old) and in 2019 enlisted Studio Johnston to design a forever home connected to nature. "We imagined a home that felt intimate and relaxed with separate spaces and living areas, which could be quiet but also great for entertaining, and multiple zones that would bring us all together."

When building began in 2021, the original front of the house remained but was reworked into three bedrooms, a new bathroom and media room, while a new two-storey pavilion replaced previous add-ons at the back. Spaces throughout are organised and united by natural oak. A striking staircase atrium becomes the rendezvous for old and new. "A half flight of stairs to the master suite and another down to the living zones means it feels less like a two-level ▶



LIVING Joinery in Briggs Veneers oak veneer, Corelli Joinery. Stuv fireplace, Oblica. Sofa, coffee table and cushions, Jardan. Armchair, Cult. Cushions, Città. Side table, Studio Johnston. Lamp, Est Lighting. Pink sculpture by Korban/Flaubert; clay and lilac sculptures by Stephanie Phillips, all The DEA Store. Bowls, Greg Natale. Rug, Armadillo. Artwork by Luke Sciberras.



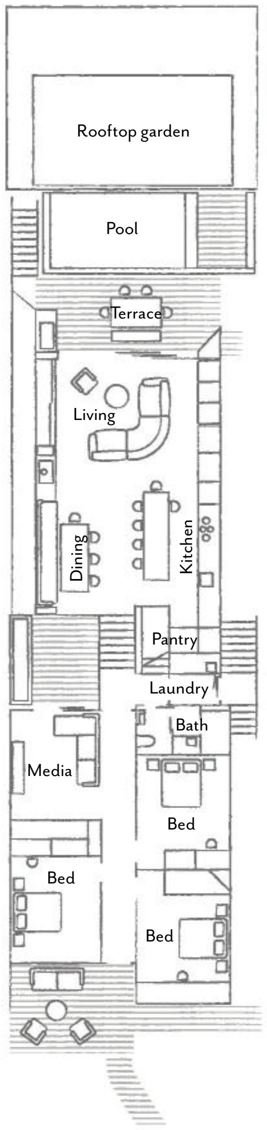
KITCHEN "A horizontal window brings a glimpse of greenery and light into the kitchen, and the plants in light are an extension of that idea," says architect Conrad Johnston. Joinery in Biggs Veneers oak veneer, Corelli Joinery. Benchtop in Calacatta Primavera marble, Worldstone. Wolf 'M Series' double oven, Winnings. 'Diiva' bar stools, Grazia & Co. Pendant light designed by Studio Johnston. Selection of glasses and vases from Maison Balzac and Dinosaur Designs.

THIS IS THE LIFE

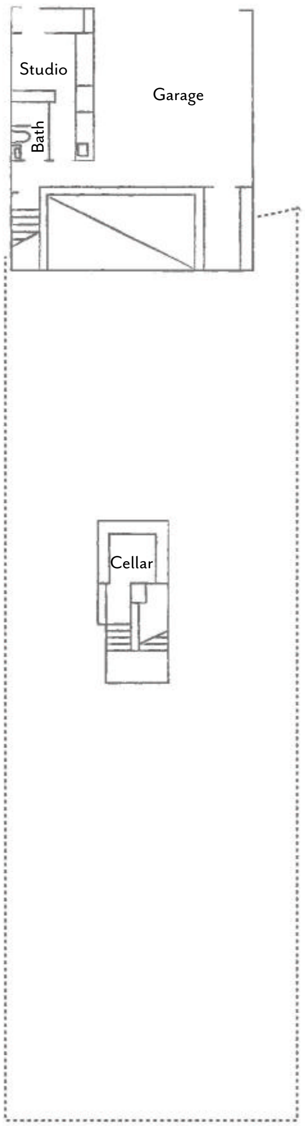
For Rhea, the kitchen is the heart of the home so a generous entertaining area was a must. "I like to host people 'comfortably' and make them feel part of everything," she says. "I wanted seats on both sides of the island so that it wasn't a 'barrier' to the kitchen. We chose the Jardan sofa because you can perch comfortably on the back of it, though I'm sure that wasn't the design intention!"

THE LAYOUT

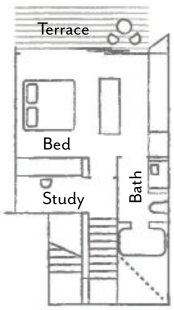
Ground floor


Rooftop garden
Pool
Terrace
Living
Dining
Kitchen
Pantry
Laundry
Bath
Media
Bed
Bed
Bed

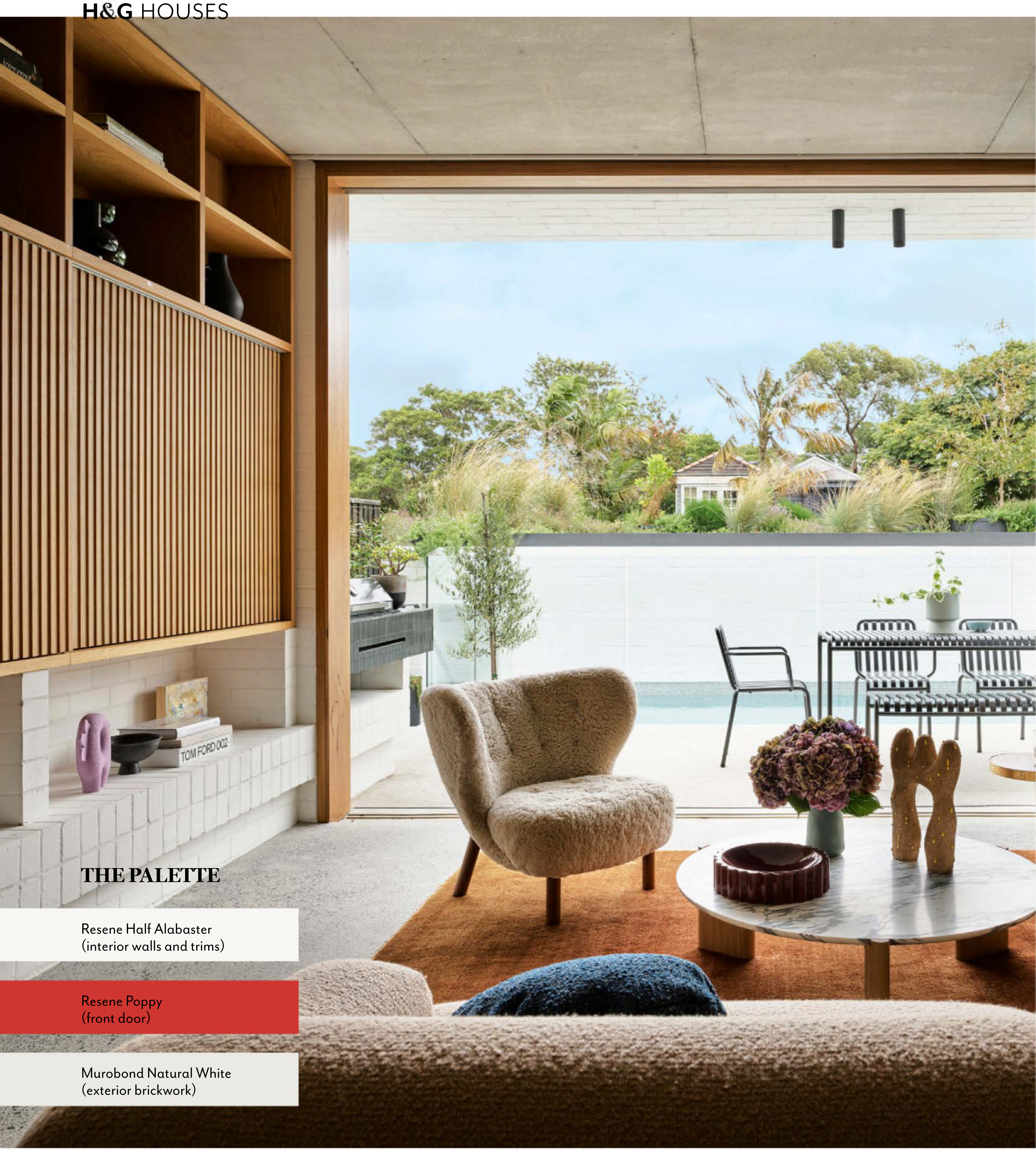
Basement


Studio
Garage
Bath
Cellar

First floor


Terrace
Bed
Study
Bath

TERRACE Barbecue, Artusi. Bench in mosaic tiles, Onsite Supply + Design. Hay 'Palissade' outdoor setting, Cult. Artwork by Stefania Reynolds. **DINING** Walls painted in Resene Half Alabaster. dk3 table and Inoda + Sveje chairs, Great Dane. Herman Miller pendant light, Living Edge. Artwork by Luke Sciberras. Vase, McMullin. Hay 'Palissade' stools and table in the pocket garden, Cult. **OUTDOOR SHOWER** Shower, Robert Plumb. Screen by Studio Johnston. **BAR** Joinery, Corelli Joinery. Artwork by Stefania Reynolds. Cocktail shaker, The Bay Tree. Marble tray, Country Road. Teapot, Greene & Greene.



THE PALETTE

Resene Half Alabaster
(interior walls and trims)

Resene Poppy
(front door)

Murobond Natural White
(exterior brickwork)

home and more like a house that's spread out horizontally, which brings a sense of space," says Conrad. "The significant slope of the land enabled the lower level and a second storey within the height regulations and provided indoor, outdoor flow."

Conjuring up a feeling of "generosity" and space (where there wasn't any) inspired much of the design, including built-in seating and joinery, replacing the media room wall with open joinery to 'borrow' space from the hallway, and designing the kids' shower with curved sides to double as a bath. "The living areas aren't typically big enough for a large family home, so the space had to work really hard," says project director Stefanie Robinson. The house continues to punch above its weight with a series of "courtyards" designed to extend the landscape: a rooftop garden on the garage, a planted terrace adjoining the couple's bedroom, and a swimming pool. "We also designed a 'pocket garden' to bring relief and light to the kitchen and dining area, which the family love for pre-dinner drinks," says Conrad.

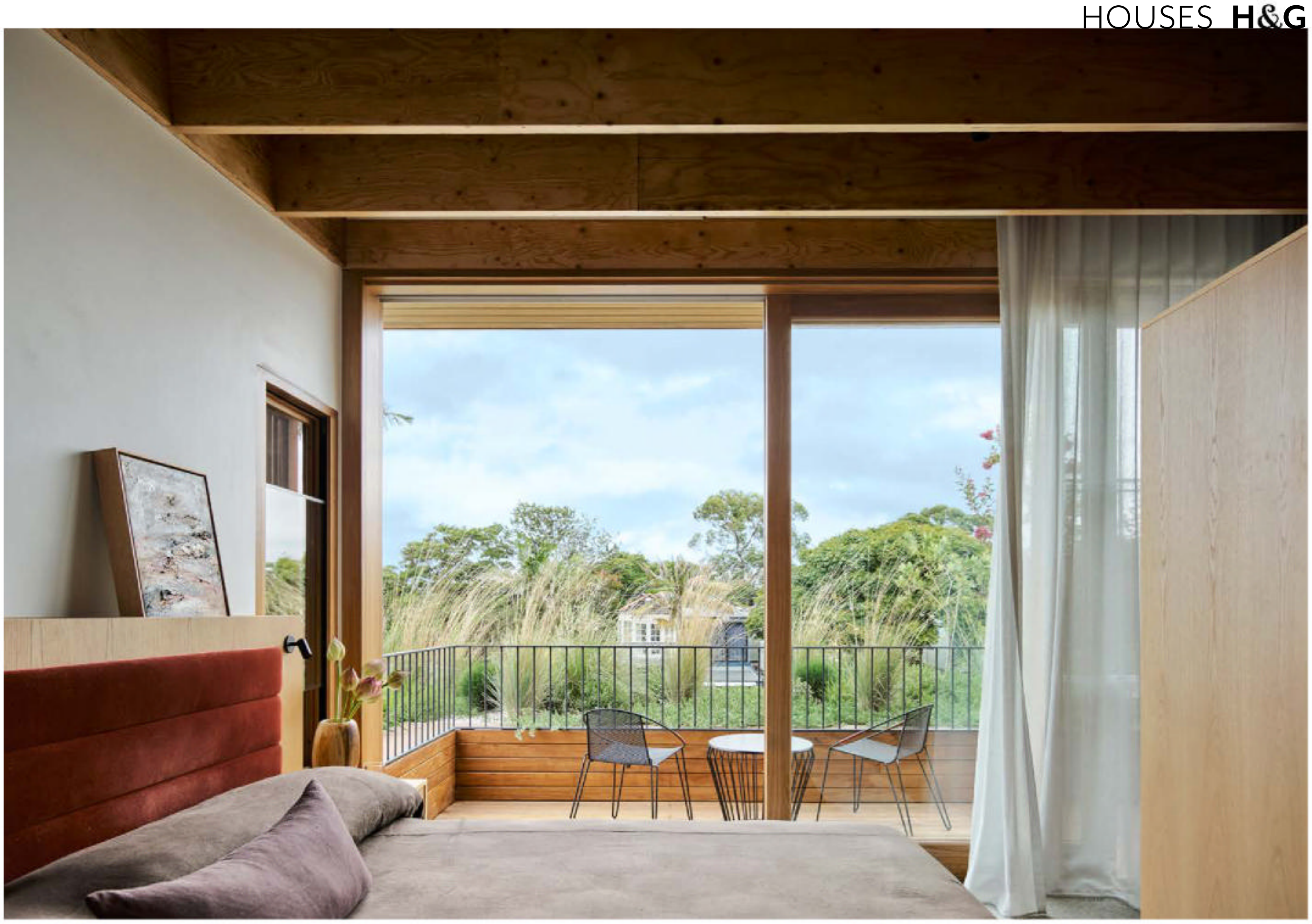
Exuding simplicity and warmth, the interiors have a modern edge and textured layers in earthy hues. In the extension, fabrics echo colours in a Luke Sciberras painting behind the dining table, while curvy design-led furniture brings softness to the scheme. Known for celebrating raw and natural materials, Studio Johnston specified concrete floors and ceilings in contrast to the more decorative original rooms, while oak, marble and terrazzo complement the modern-meets-classic look of the white-painted bricks in the downstairs extension.

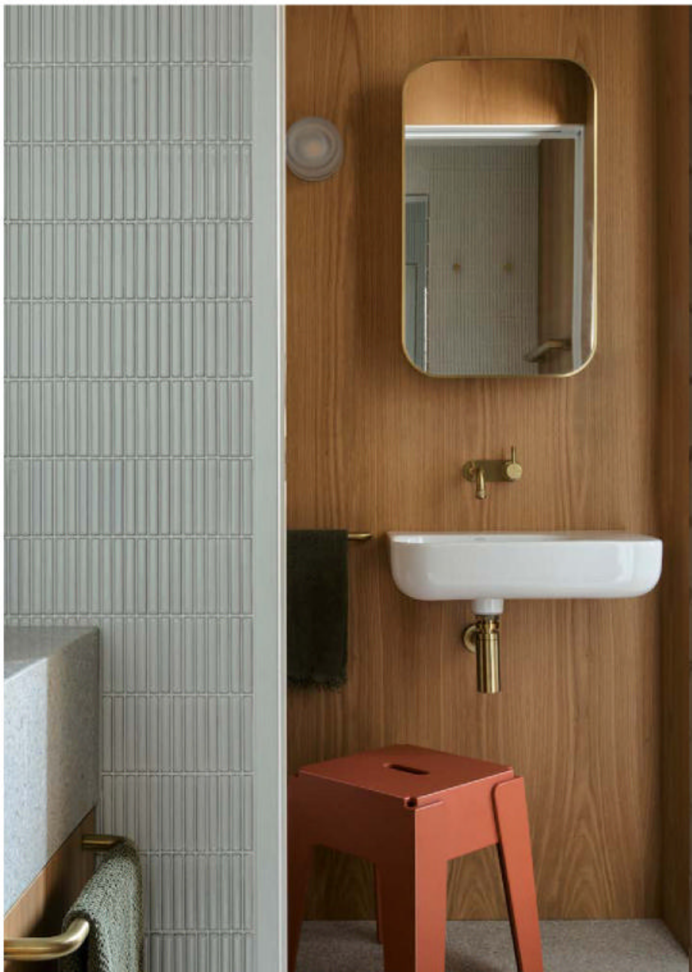
With Covid-induced delays and "100 days of rain", the build took two years to complete, but when the family finally moved back in 2023, Rhea said all the frustration melted away. "We all instantly felt a sense of being 'home'. And we just love it." ▶

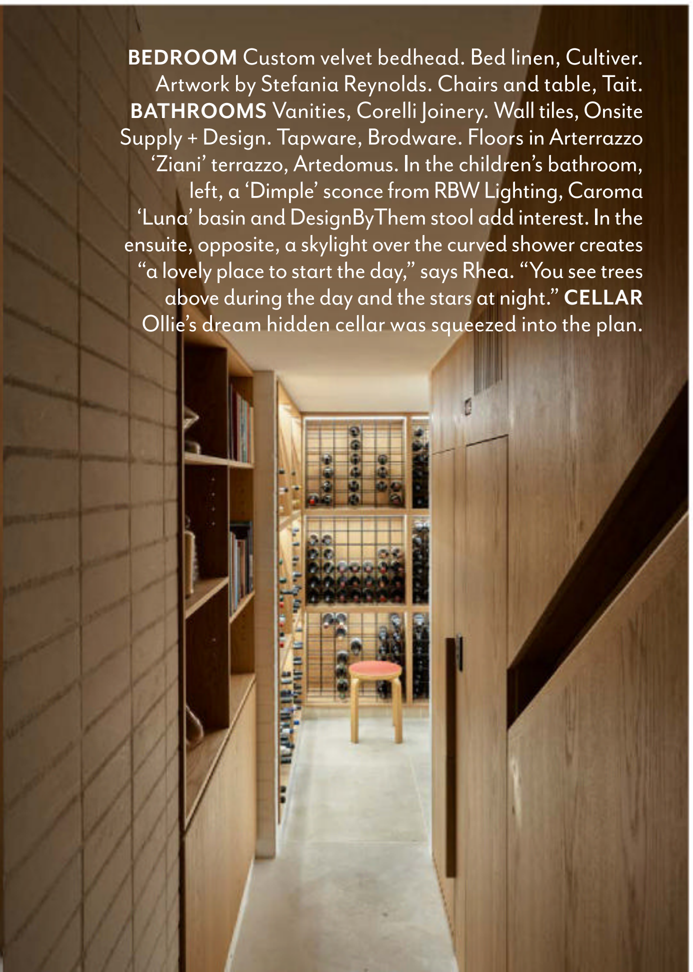
Studio Johnston: *studiojohnston.com.au.*
SFN Build: *sfnbuild.com.au.*

LIVING Joinery in Briggs Veneers oak veneer, Corelli Joinery. Curtains, Solis. 'Valley' sofa and 'Otis' coffee table, both Jardan. &Tradition armchair, Cult. Side table, Studio Johnston. Clay and lilac sculptures by Stephanie Phillips, both The DEA Store. Marble bowl, Greg Natale. 'Agra' rug, Armadillo. **TERRACE** Hay 'Palissade' table and bench, Cult. Barbecue, Artusi. Spotlights, Est Lighting.

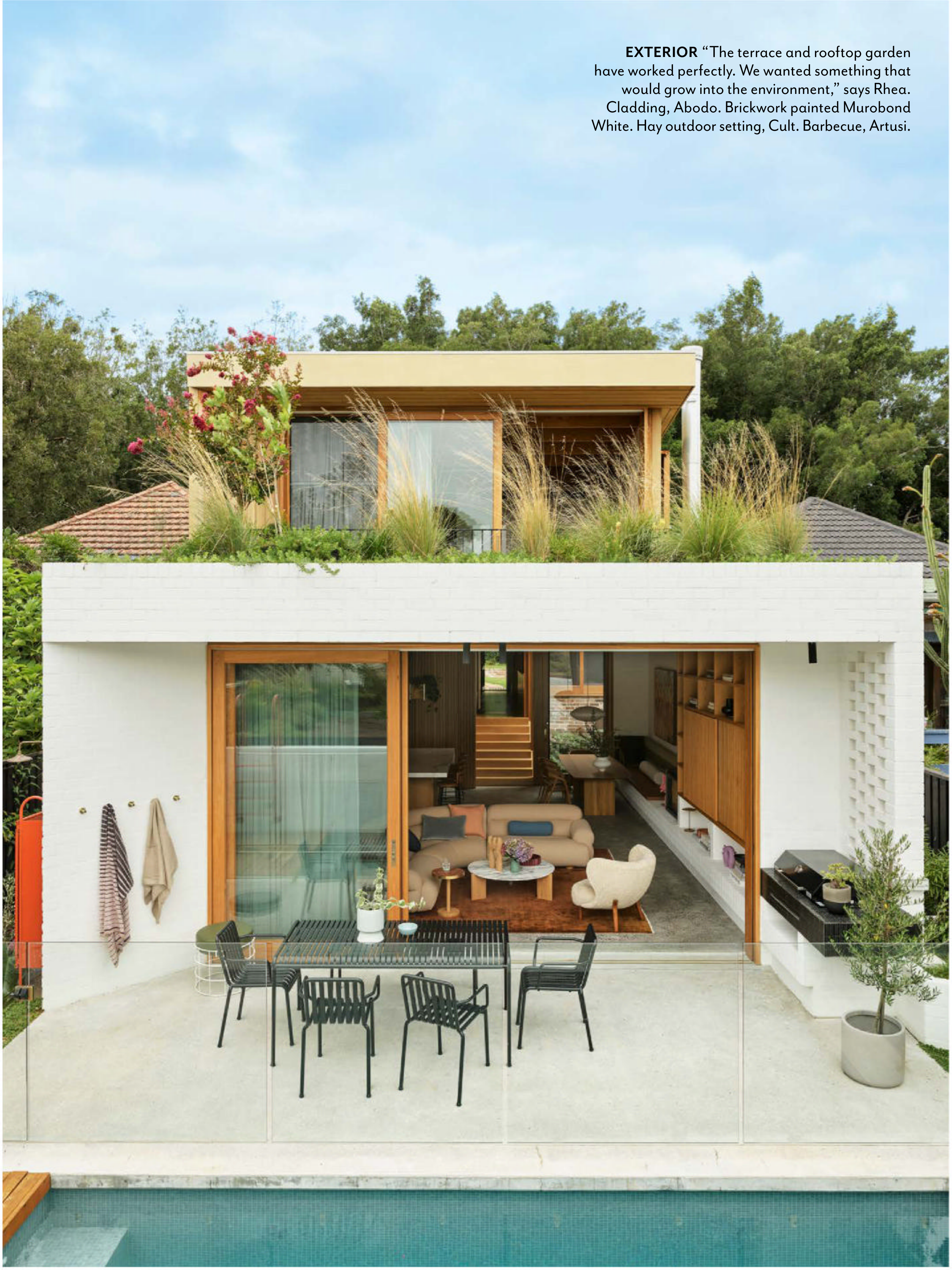
“We imagined a home that felt intimate and relaxed, but also great for entertaining.” OWNER



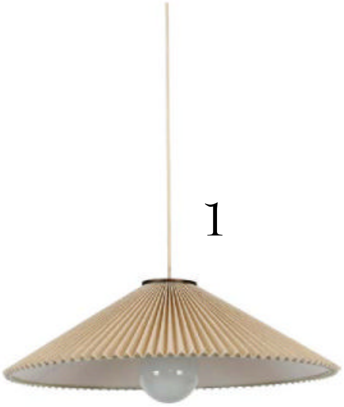




BEDROOM Custom velvet bedhead. Bed linen, Cultiver. Artwork by Stefania Reynolds. Chairs and table, Tait. **BATHROOMS** Vanities, Corelli Joinery. Wall tiles, Onsite Supply + Design. Tapware, Brodware. Floors in Arterrazzo 'Ziani' terrazzo, Artedomus. In the children's bathroom, left, a 'Dimple' sconce from RBW Lighting, Caroma 'Luna' basin and DesignByThem stool add interest. In the ensuite, opposite, a skylight over the curved shower creates "a lovely place to start the day," says Rhea. "You see trees above during the day and the stars at night." **CELLAR** Ollie's dream hidden cellar was squeezed into the plan.

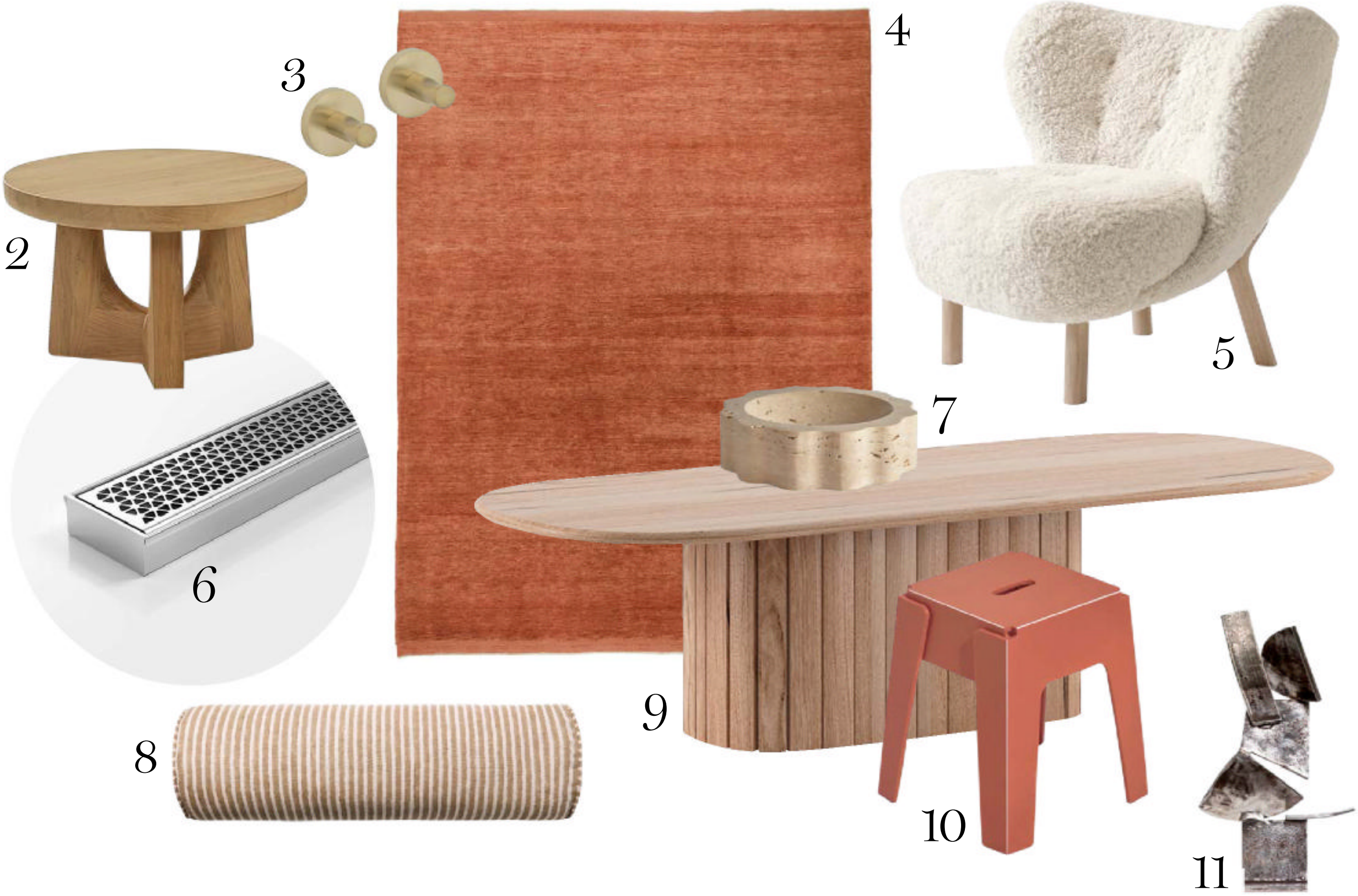


EXTERIOR "The terrace and rooftop garden have worked perfectly. We wanted something that would grow into the environment," says Rhea. Cladding, Abodo. Brickwork painted Murobond White. Hay outdoor setting, Cult. Barbecue, Artusi.



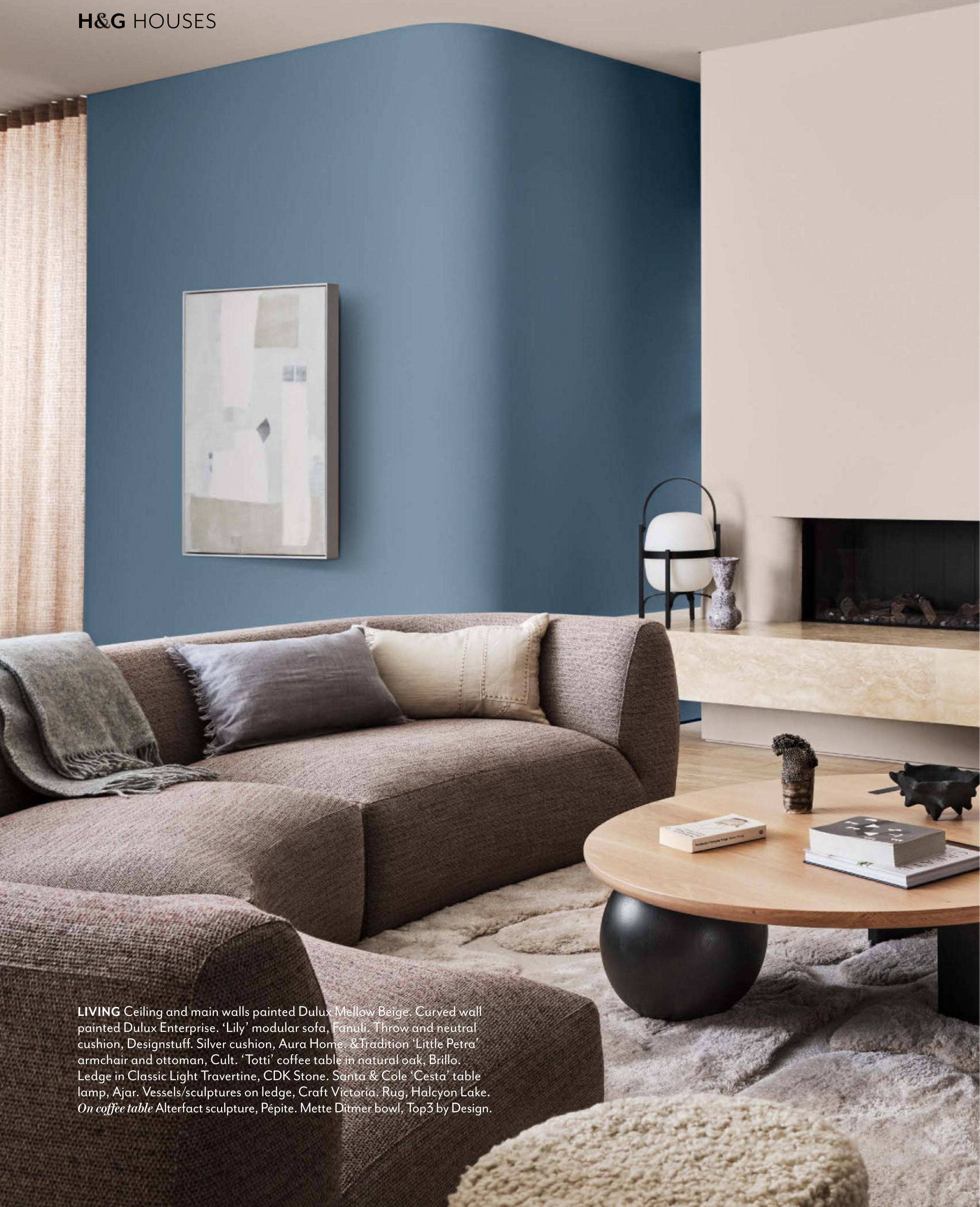
THE SOURCE

Curved silhouettes, folded lines and a touch of earthy colour lend a playful edge to contemporary interiors.

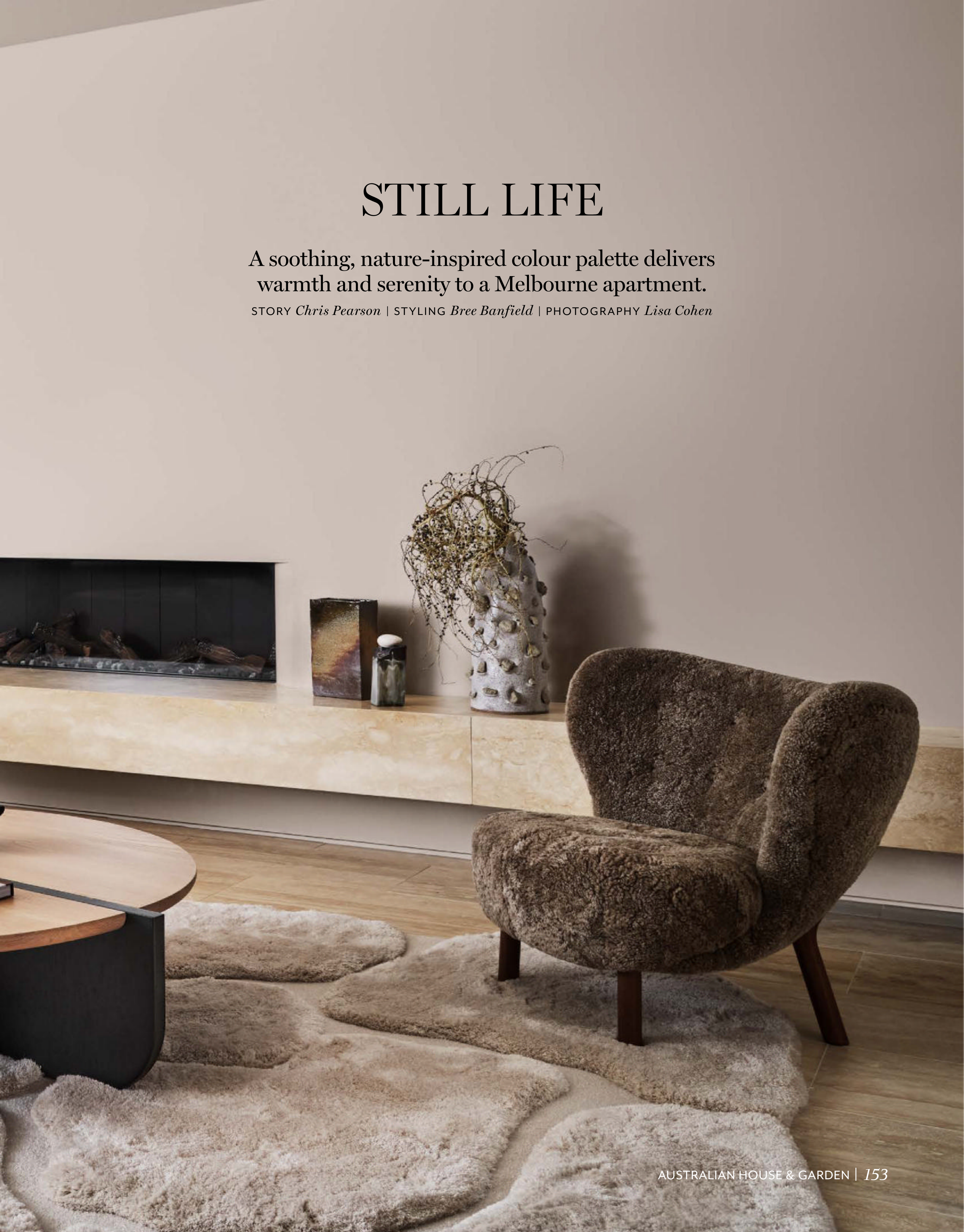


Produced by Andrea Healy.

1 'Amore' large **pendant light** in Bronze with Pleated Natural Linen, $469, Beacon Lighting. **2** 'Nara' **stool** in Hickory Walnut, POA, Poliform. **3** 'Elysian' **robe hooks** in Brushed Brass, $49.90 each, ABI Interiors. **4** 'Chromatic' **rug** in Clay, POA, Halcyon Lake. **5** &Tradition 'Little Petra' **armchair**, from $5740, Cult. **6** Marc Newson complete stainless steel **drainage unit** with centre outlet, POA, Stormtech. **7** Greg Natale 'Onda' **bowl** in White Travertine, $645, Top3 by Design. **8** 'Margot' linen **bolster cushion** in Mocha, $123, L&M Home. **9** 'Claire' **oval dining table** (220cm), $2399, Harvey Norman. **10** 'Butter' **stool** in Clay, $305, DesignByThem. **11** *EPTA* **sculpture** by Caroline Duffy, $1900, Curatorial+Co. **H&G**



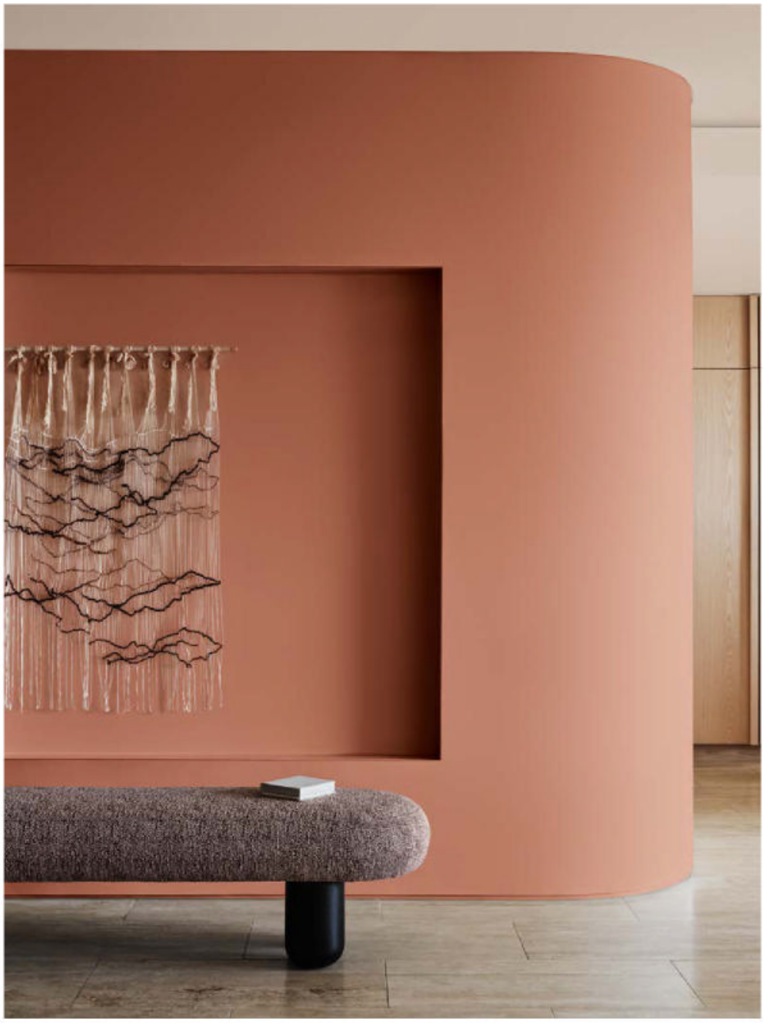
LIVING Ceiling and main walls painted Dulux Mellow Beige. Curved wall painted Dulux Enterprise. 'Lily' modular sofa, Fanuli. Throw and neutral cushion, Designstuff. Silver cushion, Aura Home. &Tradition 'Little Petra' armchair and ottoman, Cult. 'Totti' coffee table in natural oak, Brillo. Ledge in Classic Light Travertine, CDK Stone. Santa & Cole 'Cesta' table lamp, Ajar. Vessels/sculptures on ledge, Craft Victoria. Rug, Halcyon Lake. *On coffee table* Alterfact sculpture, Pépite. Mette Ditmer bowl, Top3 by Design.



STILL LIFE

A soothing, nature-inspired colour palette delivers warmth and serenity to a Melbourne apartment.

STORY *Chris Pearson* | STYLING *Bree Banfield* | PHOTOGRAPHY *Lisa Cohen*



When they walk in the door, the owners of this home in Melbourne's inner south-east are immersed in a sense of calm, an infusion of subdued colour and tactile texture that leaves the hurly burly behind. And it's thanks to a colourful and colour-filled makeover by interior designer and Dulux forecaster Bree Banfield.

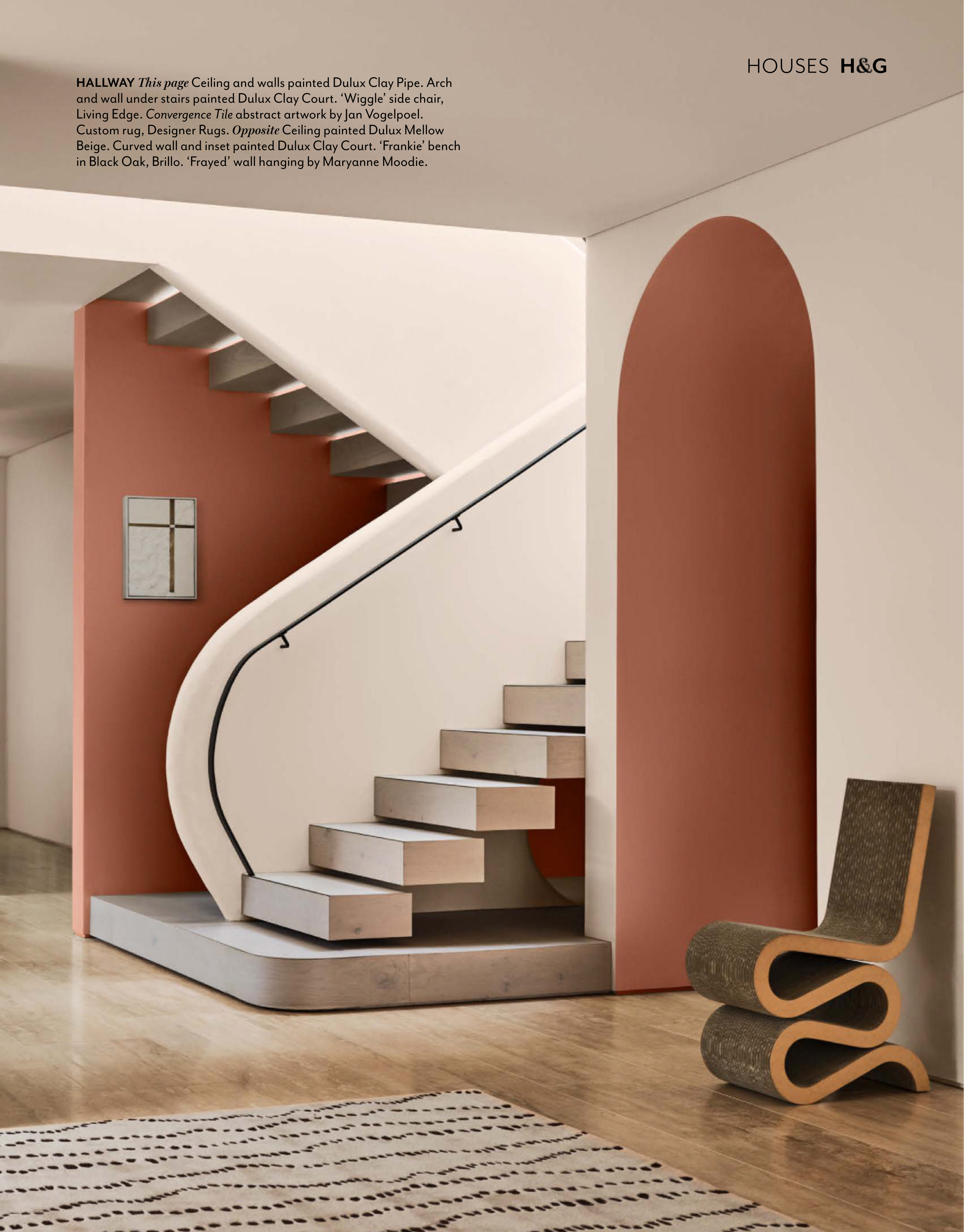
Her decorating brushstrokes deftly explore the company's newly released Still palette. "The palette encompasses slow design, with an appreciation of and a connection with nature," says Dulux colour manager Lauren Treloar. "It showcases our need to find beauty in the mundane and a longing for authenticity. This palette, combined with calming neutrals, has a subtle warmth to create a sense of ease and understated luxury."

Warm grey subtly emerges as an accent against yellow-based neutrals and greens, blended with serene and cool greyish blues. Evocative names, such as Grainfield, Mellow Beige, Pesto, Clay Court, Flooded Gum and Slight Mushroom, give the clue to the palette's earthy direction.

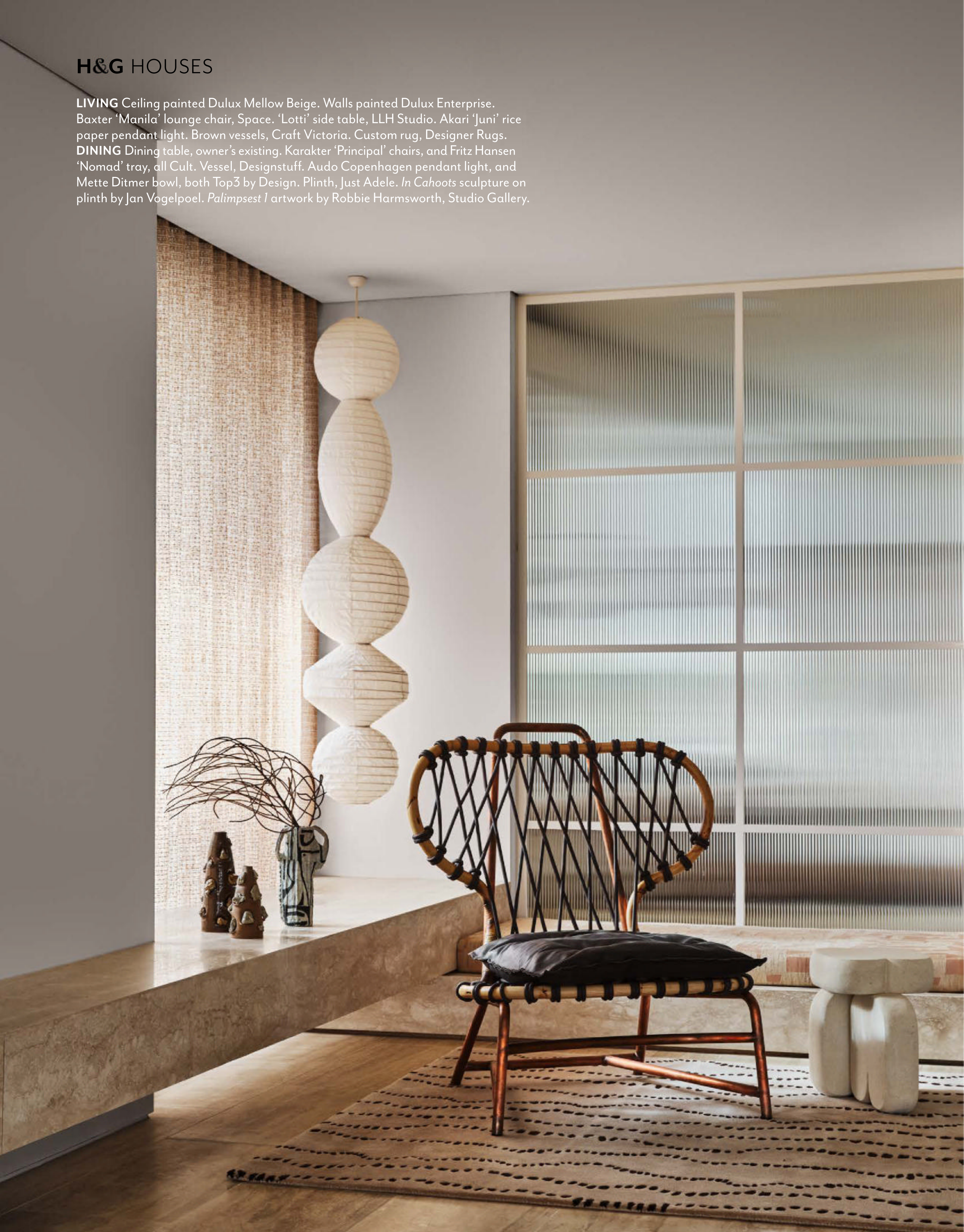
Accordingly, Bree tantalisingly brings the outside in, colourwise and texturally, in this two-level apartment, home to a family with two children. The living areas, two children's bedrooms and a guest bedroom occupy the lower entry level, while the main bedroom ensuite and a gym sit on top.

When Bree first visited early last year, she found plenty to love. "It had a quiet softness, minimal but warm, with off-whites, curves and a fabulous travertine floor, which provided instant pattern and tactility," says Bree. But she was keen to take things up a notch and, in particular, to "call out the architectural details, especially the curves. I aimed to create comfort and warmth, but nothing flashy and over the top," she says.

Shades of brown play leading roles in this ode to earthy exuberance. From the get-go, in the entry Bree used Clay Court to highlight a wall with an alcove. There, too, she used it to accentuate other features, such as an archway and the stairway. Meanwhile, in the main bedroom, Bree boldly painted the ceiling in Night Hawk, a markedly darker shade than the Clay Pipe walls, ▶



HALLWAY *This page* Ceiling and walls painted Dulux Clay Pipe. Arch and wall under stairs painted Dulux Clay Court. 'Wiggle' side chair, Living Edge. *Convergence Tile* abstract artwork by Jan Vogelpoel. Custom rug, Designer Rugs. *Opposite* Ceiling painted Dulux Mellow Beige. Curved wall and inset painted Dulux Clay Court. 'Frankie' bench in Black Oak, Brillo. 'Frayed' wall hanging by Maryanne Moodie.



LIVING Ceiling painted Dulux Mellow Beige. Walls painted Dulux Enterprise. Baxter 'Manila' lounge chair, Space. 'Lotti' side table, LLH Studio. Akari 'Juni' rice paper pendant light. Brown vessels, Craft Victoria. Custom rug, Designer Rugs. **DINING** Dining table, owner's existing. Karakter 'Principal' chairs, and Fritz Hansen 'Nomad' tray, all Cult. Vessel, Designstuff. Audo Copenhagen pendant light, and Mette Ditmer bowl, both Top3 by Design. Plinth, Just Adele. *In Cahoots* sculpture on plinth by Jan Vogelpoel. *Palimpsest 1* artwork by Robbie Harmsworth, Studio Gallery.

“Stone, ceramics and wood with undyed wool, cotton, linen and jute are seen alongside primitive patterns.”

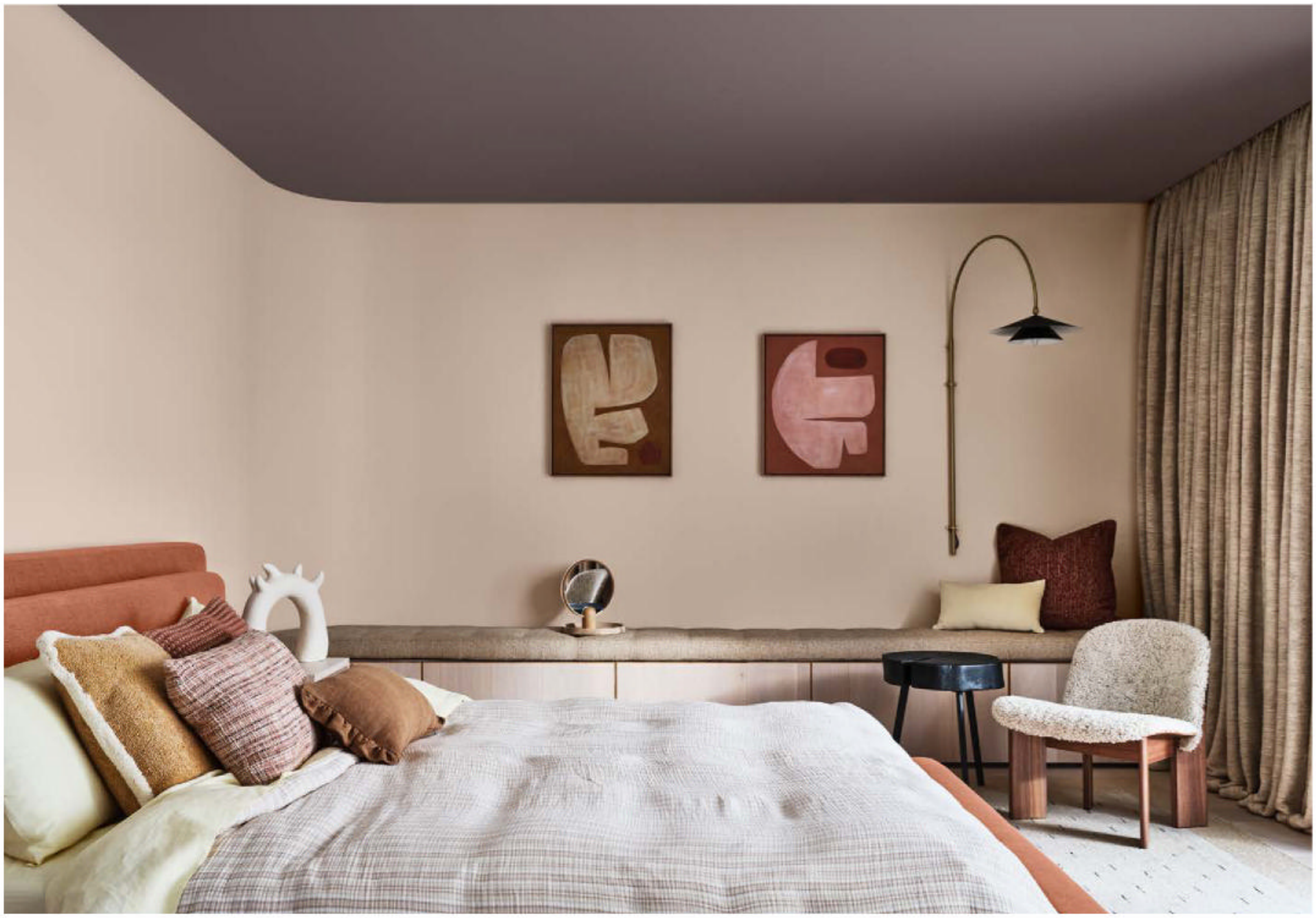
BREE BANFIELD, DULUX FORECASTER AND INTERIOR DESIGNER

THE PALETTE

Dulux Clay Pipe
(main bedroom walls)

Dulux Enterprise
(living walls)

Dulux Studio Cream
(study ceiling and walls)



for a sense of enclosure. "The contrast highlights the simple curves in the corners of the room. And, contrary to popular belief, a darker ceiling does not feel claustrophobic," she says. "With the cooler colour below, it actually gives the impression of being higher." In the study, walls and joinery in Studio Cream handsomely offset a bulkhead in the tonal, yet slightly deeper, Grainfield, emphasising the glamorous curves of the joinery.

Furnishings and accessories also reflect Bree's embrace of the natural world. These interiors are packed with textural detail, combining the raw with the hand-crafted. "Stone, ceramics and wood together with undyed wool, cotton, linen and jute are seen alongside primitive patterns, with the emphasis on craftsmanship, opting for understated luxury, with nothing flashy," says Bree.

Strikingly, she selected a handwoven wallhanging for that alcove in the entry, framed by the Clay Pipe feature wall ("It creates a moment for that artwork").

Furniture-wise, she has opted for chunky, organic and almost cartoonish profiles, such as the Brillo hall bench and LLH Studio side table, for a relaxed and crafted feel, with nothing too refined.

"They are simple, oversized and bulbous shapes." Sometimes Flintstone-esque, they embrace curves but in loose, primitive ways. ▶

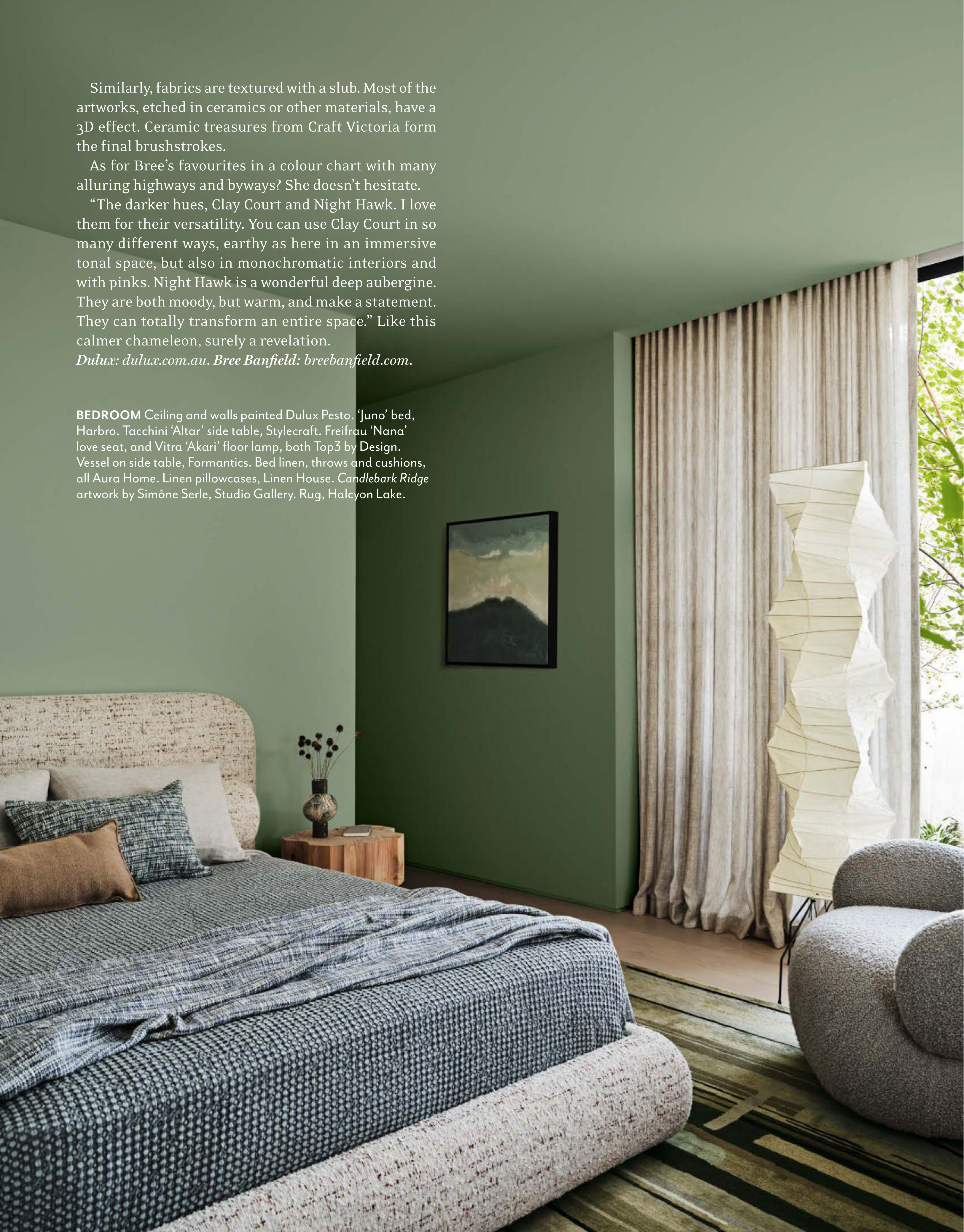
MAIN BEDROOM Ceiling painted Dulux Night Hawk. Walls painted Dulux Clay Pipe. Sculpture by Stephanie Phillips, Pepité. Lumbar cushion, textured rush/white cushions on bed, all Aura Home. Camel cushion with white piping on bed and burgundy cushion on bench, both Bonnie & Neil. Linen lemon lumbar cushion on bench, Linen House. Fritz Hansen 'Aino' mirror, Cult. *Silhouette 03* and *Silhouette 06* artworks Berny Bacic, both Fenton & Fenton. Hay 'Chisel' lounge chair, Cult. Janua 'Stomp' side table, Top3 by Design. Hein Studio 'Meconopsis' wall light, Loam. **STUDY** Ceiling and walls painted Dulux Studio Cream. Bulkhead painted Dulux Grainfield. Roll & Hill 'Three Plane' chair, Space. Large pot on floor, neutral vessel on desk, dark vessel on second shelf, neutral vessel on third shelf, all Frey. Dark vessel on desk, Origine. Normann Copenhagen 'Little Bird' sculpture on second shelf, and Audo Copenhagen 'Converge' cross sculpture on fourth shelf, both Top3 by Design. *Chewed* artwork by Sasha Vatoff, Frey. 'G25' wall light, Sammode. Rug, Halcyon Lake.

Similarly, fabrics are textured with a slub. Most of the artworks, etched in ceramics or other materials, have a 3D effect. Ceramic treasures from Craft Victoria form the final brushstrokes.

As for Bree's favourites in a colour chart with many alluring highways and byways? She doesn't hesitate.

"The darker hues, Clay Court and Night Hawk. I love them for their versatility. You can use Clay Court in so many different ways, earthy as here in an immersive tonal space, but also in monochromatic interiors and with pinks. Night Hawk is a wonderful deep aubergine. They are both moody, but warm, and make a statement. They can totally transform an entire space." Like this calmer chameleon, surely a revelation.

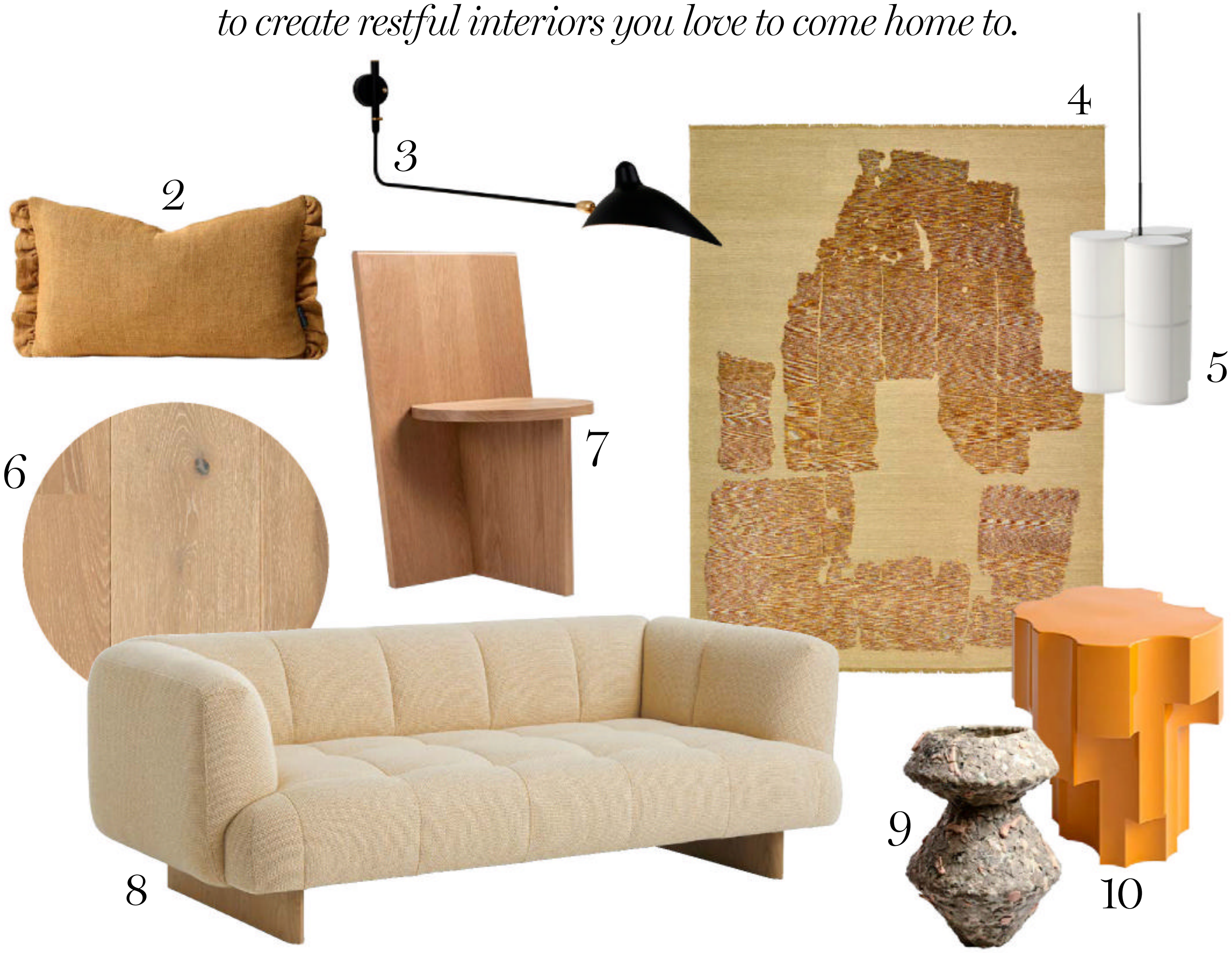
***Dulux:** dulux.com.au.* ***Bree Banfield:** breebanfield.com.*



BEDROOM Ceiling and walls painted Dulux Pesto. 'Juno' bed, Harbro. Tacchini 'Altar' side table, Stylecraft. Freifrau 'Nana' love seat, and Vitra 'Akari' floor lamp, both Top3 by Design. Vessel on side table, Formantics. Bed linen, throws and cushions, all Aura Home. Linen pillowcases, Linen House. *Candlebark Ridge* artwork by Simône Serle, Studio Gallery. Rug, Halcyon Lake.

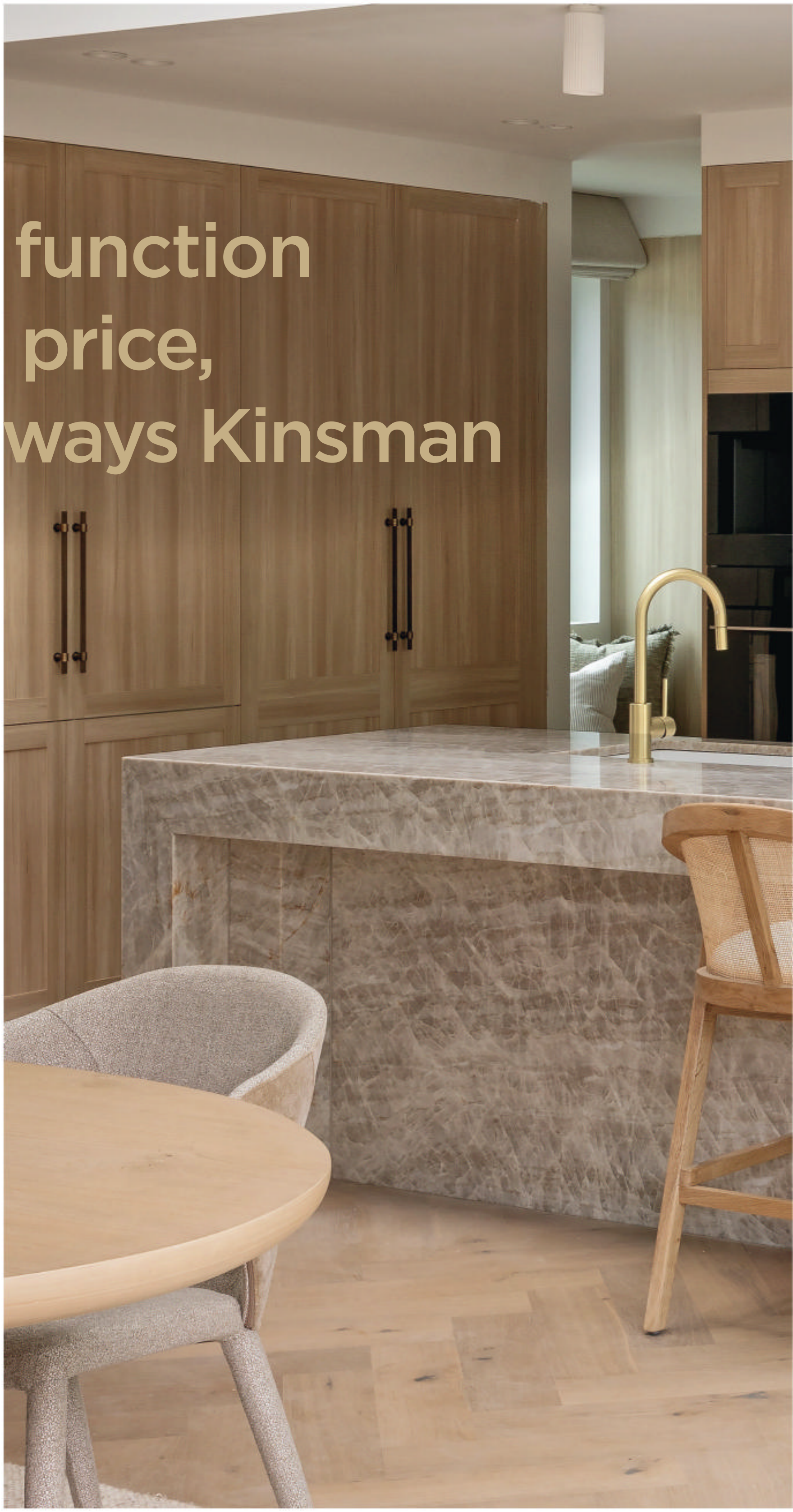
THE SOURCE

Play with a serene natural palette and tactile materials to create restful interiors you love to come home to.



1 'Little Bobbi' **seat/foot stool**, $1450, Brillo. **2** 'Ruffle' linen **cushion** in Bronze, $89, Aura Home. **3** Serge Mouille straight-arm **sconce**, $7678, Cult. **4** 'Tie Dye' **rug** in Yellow, POA, Halcyon Lake. **5** 'Hashira' small cluster **pendant light** in White, $1900, Lighterior. **6** 'Plantino Regal' engineered **oak flooring** in Blanc, POA, Choices Flooring. **7** 'Roll & Hill' three-plane **chair**, POA, Space. **8** 'Quilton Lift' two-seater **sofa**, $6190, Hay. **9** FDO Studio **vessel**, $1450, Pépite. **10** 'Altar' **table**, $5000, Stylecraft. **H&G**

Produced by Andrea Healy.



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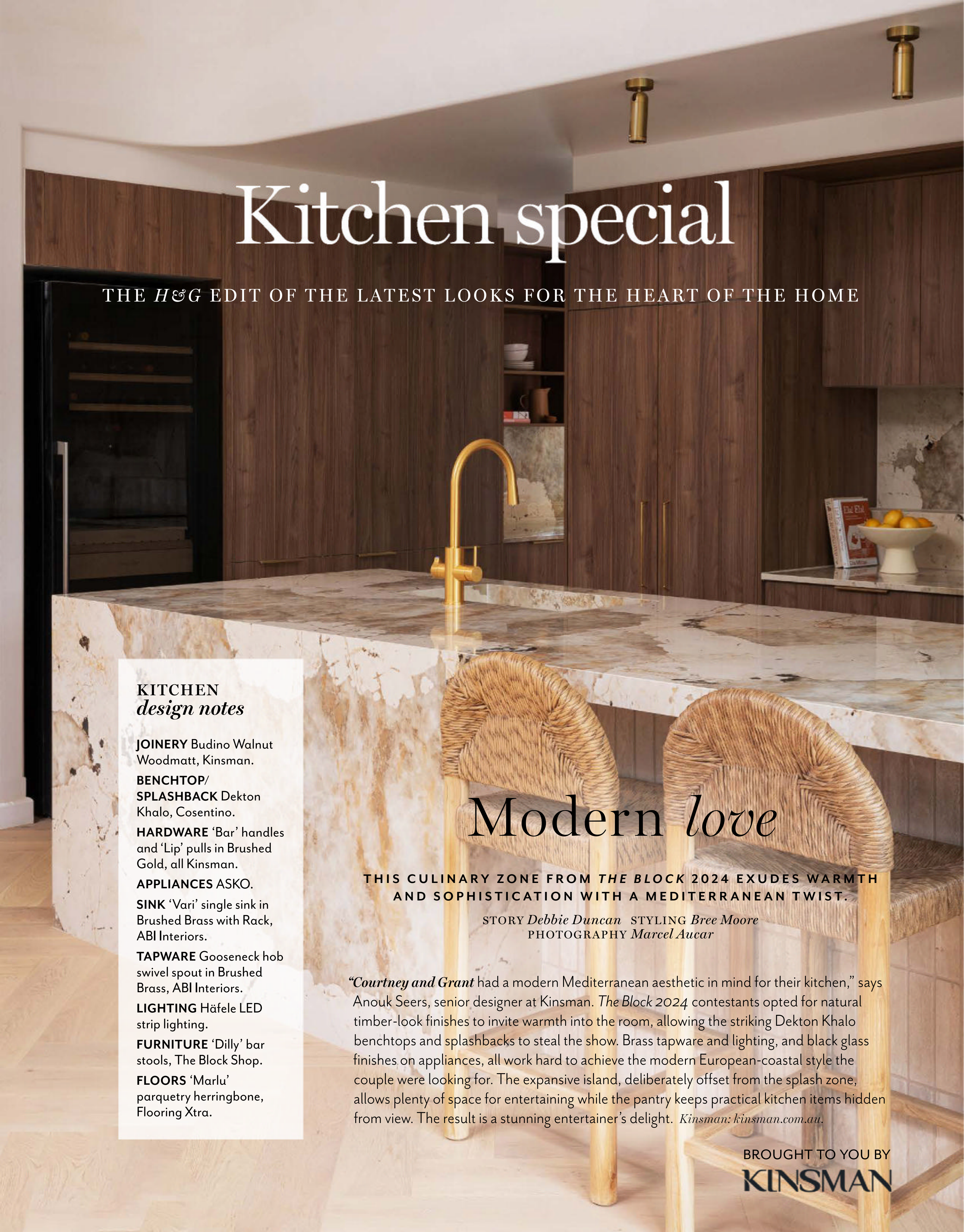

Kitchen special

THE *H&G* EDIT OF THE LATEST LOOKS FOR THE HEART OF THE HOME

Modern *love*

THIS CULINARY ZONE FROM *THE BLOCK* 2024 EXUDES WARMTH AND SOPHISTICATION WITH A MEDITERRANEAN TWIST.

STORY *Debbie Duncan* STYLING *Bree Moore*
PHOTOGRAPHY *Marcel Aucar*

"Courtney and Grant had a modern Mediterranean aesthetic in mind for their kitchen," says Anouk Seers, senior designer at Kinsman. *The Block 2024* contestants opted for natural timber-look finishes to invite warmth into the room, allowing the striking Dekton Khalo benchtops and splashbacks to steal the show. Brass tapware and lighting, and black glass finishes on appliances, all work hard to achieve the modern European-coastal style the couple were looking for. The expansive island, deliberately offset from the splash zone, allows plenty of space for entertaining while the pantry keeps practical kitchen items hidden from view. The result is a stunning entertainer's delight. *Kinsman: kinsman.com.au.*

KITCHEN *design notes*

JOINERY Budino Walnut Woodmatt, Kinsman.

BENCHTOP/ SPLASHBACK Dekton Khalo, Cosentino.

HARDWARE 'Bar' handles and 'Lip' pulls in Brushed Gold, all Kinsman.

APPLIANCES ASKO.

SINK 'Vari' single sink in Brushed Brass with Rack, ABI Interiors.

TAPWARE Gooseneck hob swivel spout in Brushed Brass, ABI Interiors.

LIGHTING Häfele LED strip lighting.

FURNITURE 'Dilly' bar stools, The Block Shop.

FLOORS 'Marlu' parquetry herringbone, Flooring Xtra.

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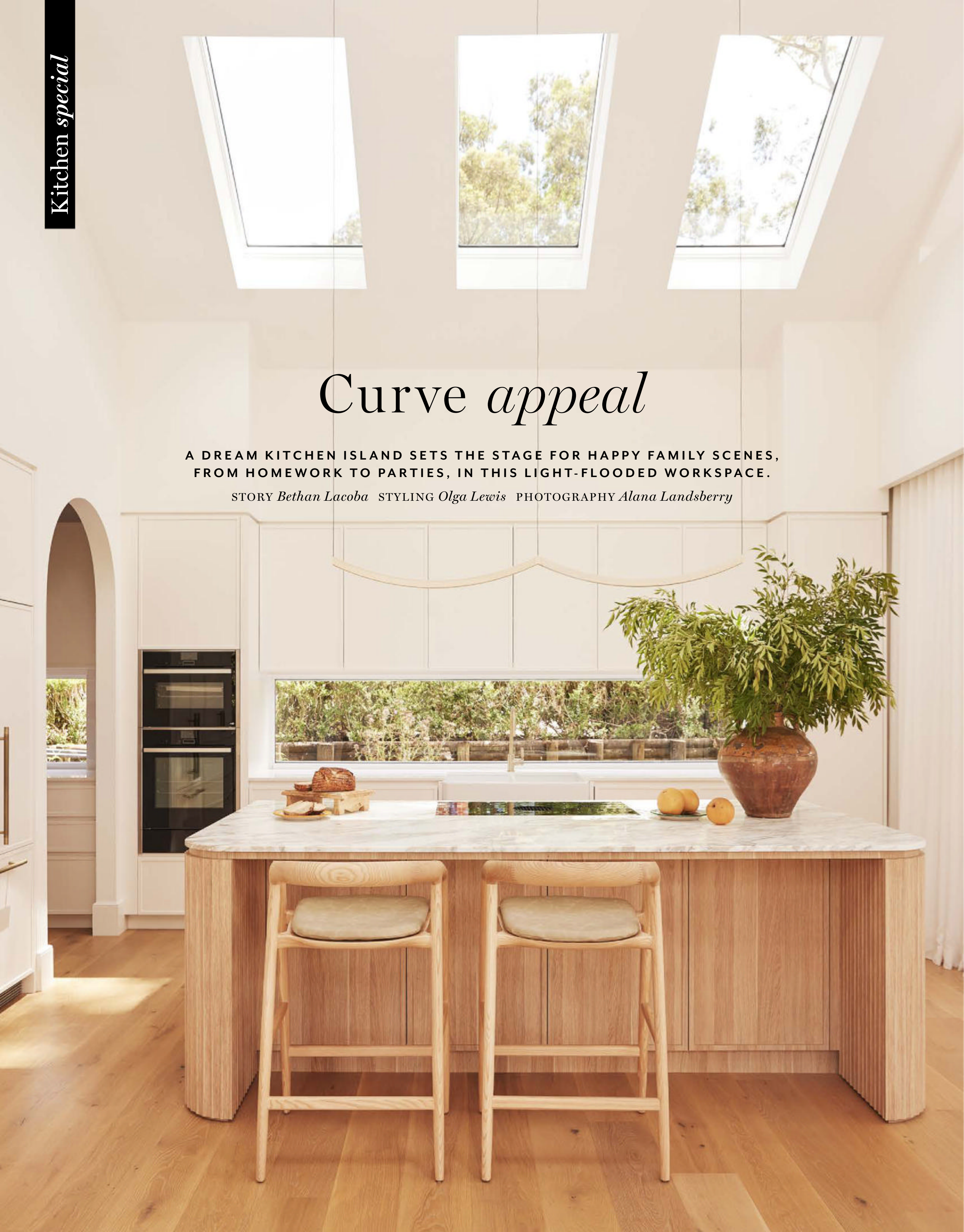
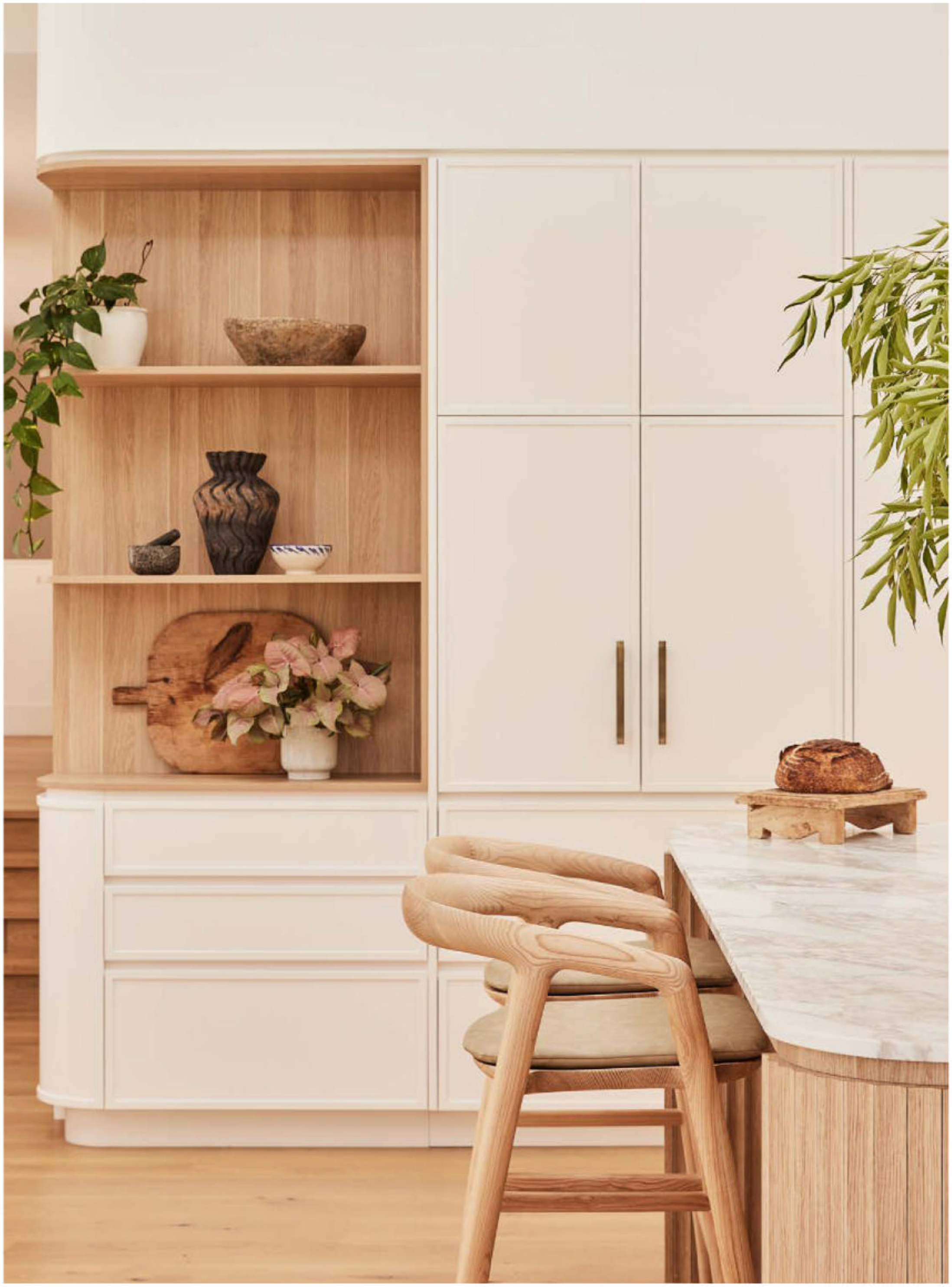


Curve *appeal*

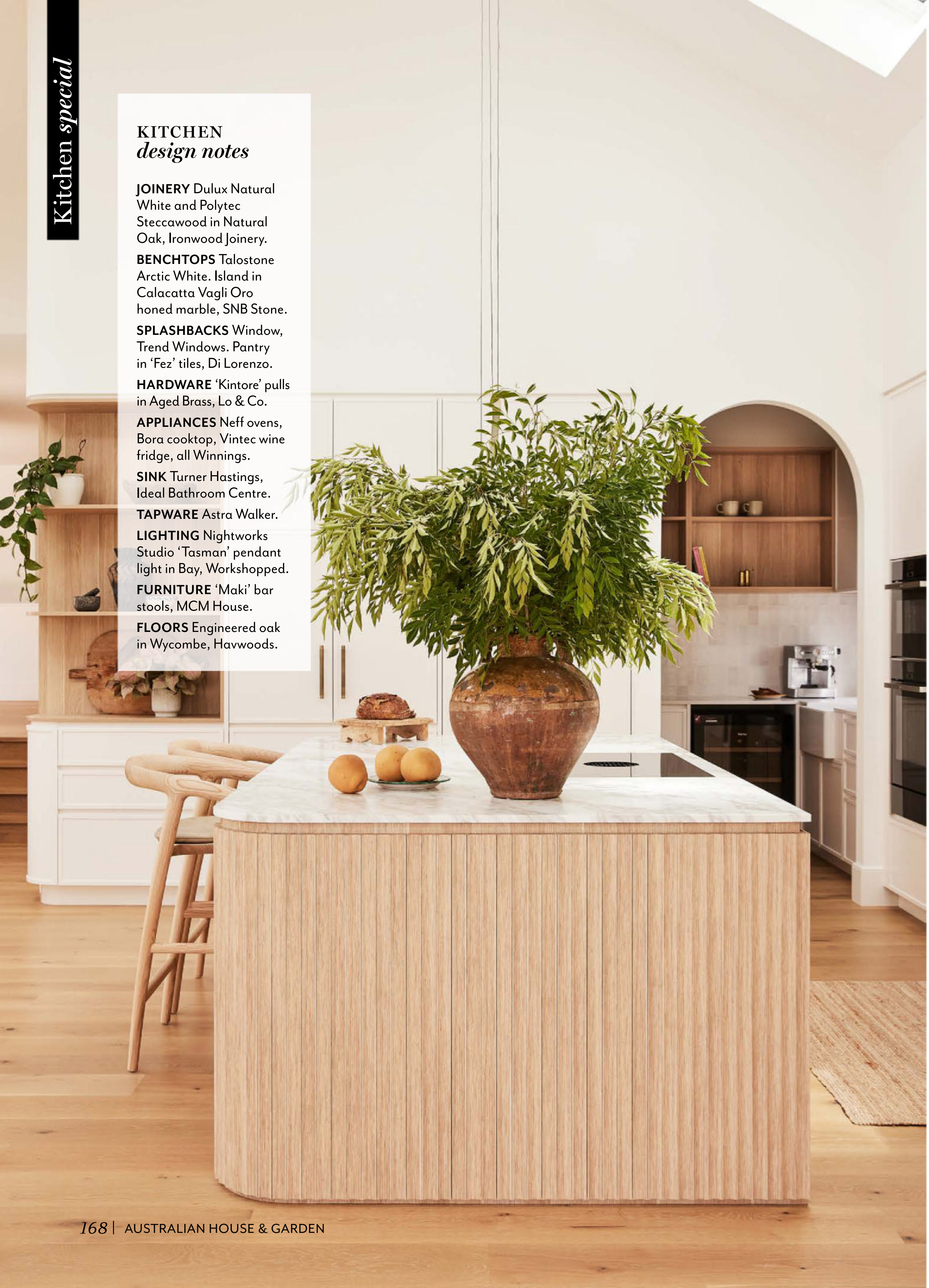
A DREAM KITCHEN ISLAND SETS THE STAGE FOR HAPPY FAMILY SCENES, FROM HOMEWORK TO PARTIES, IN THIS LIGHT-FLOODED WORKSPACE.

STORY *Bethan Lacoba* STYLING *Olga Lewis* PHOTOGRAPHY *Alana Landsberry*



Laying eyes on a beautiful slab of natural stone was a defining moment for homeowner Alex. "I fell in love with Calacatta Vagli marble with cream, green, golden tones and even a hint of raspberry!" she says. These hues became the base for her new kitchen design, which she worked on with Renee Hawkins from interiors studio Heliconia to design a family friendly, open-plan space perfect for entertaining and everyday life. High ceilings illuminated by skylights ticked the natural light element of the design brief. Similarly, selecting Dulux Natural White joinery with soft timber accents created the inviting warmth Alex requested. "I initially envisioned sage cabinetry, however, once the windows were installed it became clear there was enough greenery outside and so I opted for a more neutral colour," she says. The resulting light, warm scheme is timeless yet contemporary. ▶

Heliconia: heliconia.com.au. Ironwood Joinery: ironwoodjoinery.com.au. Bean: beanprojects.com.au.



KITCHEN
design notes

JOINERY Dulux Natural White and Polytec Steccawood in Natural Oak, Ironwood Joinery.

BENCHTOPS Talostone Arctic White. Island in Calacatta Vagli Oro honed marble, SNB Stone.

SPLASHBACKS Window, Trend Windows. Pantry in 'Fez' tiles, Di Lorenzo.

HARDWARE 'Kintore' pulls in Aged Brass, Lo & Co.

APPLIANCES Neff ovens, Bora cooktop, Vintec wine fridge, all Winnings.

SINK Turner Hastings, Ideal Bathroom Centre.

TAPWARE Astra Walker.

LIGHTING Nightworks Studio 'Tasman' pendant light in Bay, Workshopped.

FURNITURE 'Maki' bar stools, MCM House.

FLOORS Engineered oak in Wycombe, Havwoods.

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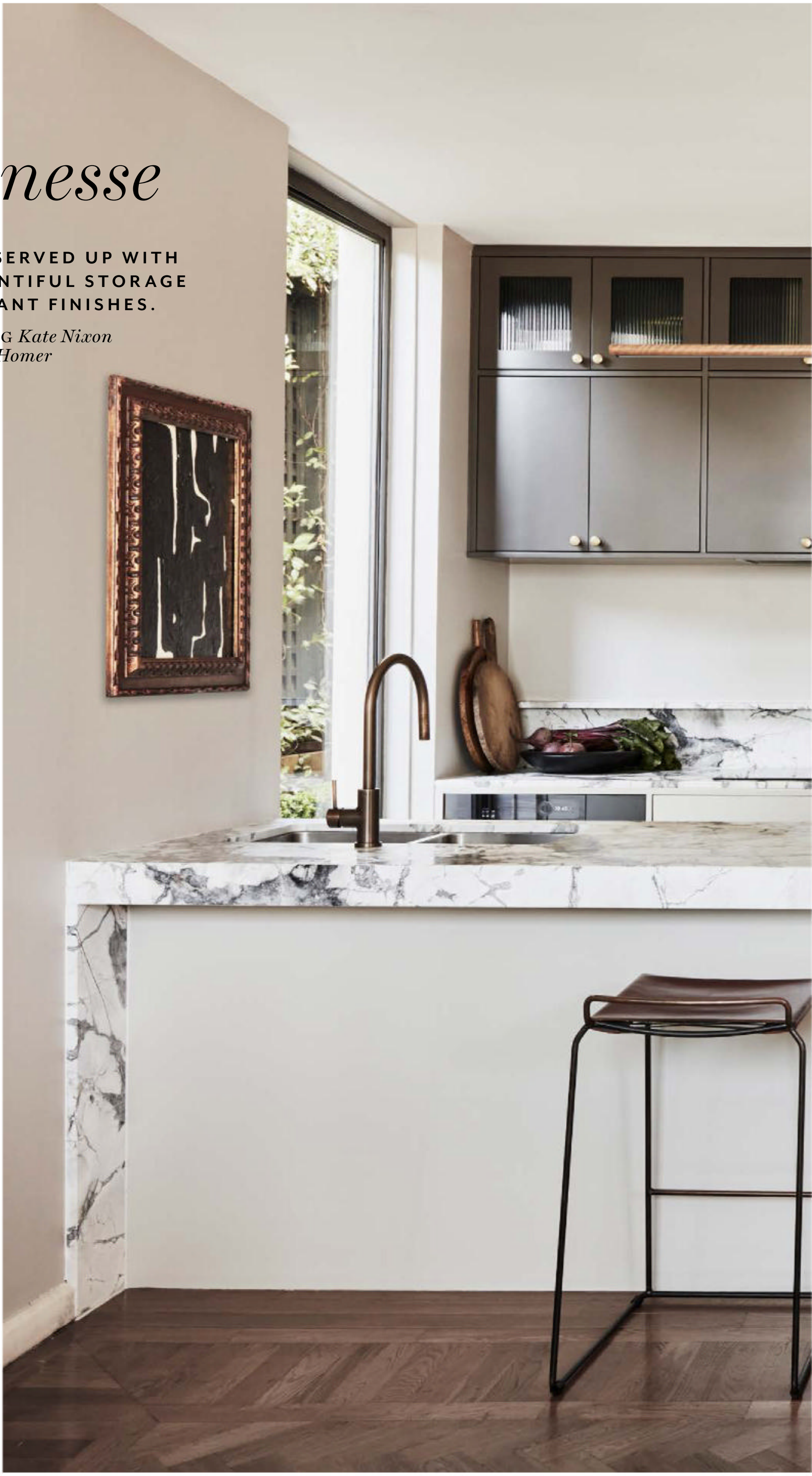
Classic *finesse*

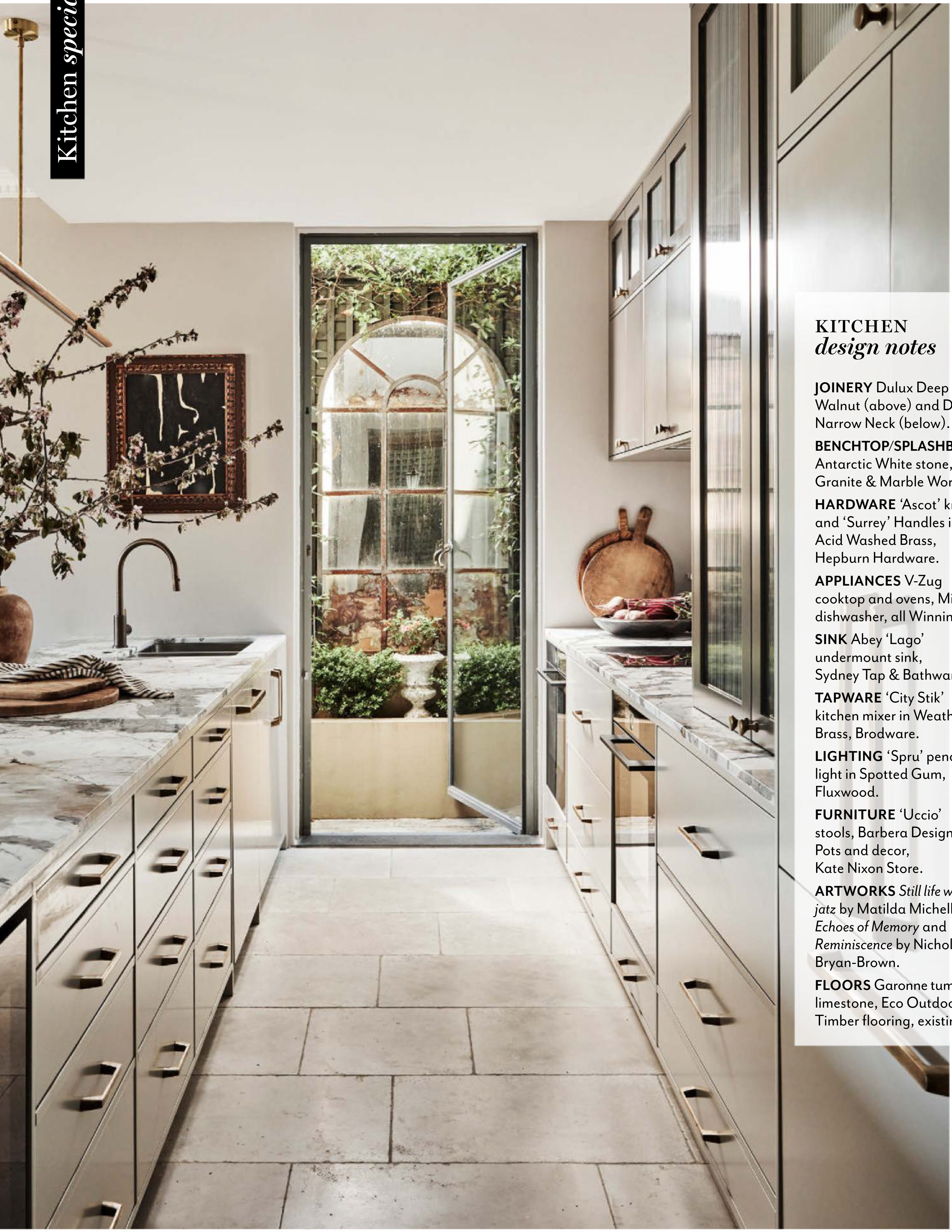
CONTEMPORARY LUXURY IS SERVED UP WITH THE LATEST APPLIANCES, PLENTIFUL STORAGE AND A SELECTION OF ELEGANT FINISHES.

STORY *Bethan Lacoba* STYLING *Kate Nixon*
PHOTOGRAPHY *Maree Homer*



When the owners of this Sydney Eastern Suburbs apartment approached designer Kate Nixon to transform their cramped kitchen space, they wanted a design that sat sympathetically with the surrounding interiors. They also requested the space and convenience needed to indulge their passion for cooking and entertaining. A clever reconfiguration of the joinery allowed Kate to work with existing wall openings and structural beams, accommodating generous storage. "A timeless palette of natural tones and textures was introduced to create an elegant extension of the classical interior," says Kate. "Spectacular Antarctic White marble, tumbled brass hardware, muted, two-toned cabinetry and fluted glass bring depth and interest, which transcends trends." Tumbled limestone applied to the floor between workspaces continues the classic scheme and creates a connection to the adjoining courtyard. The verdict from the owners? "We love the ease with which everything can be accessed and the thought that has gone into the design." ▶

Kate Nixon: katenixon.com. JMichael Constructions: jmichaelconstructions.com.au.



KITCHEN *design notes*

JOINERY Dulux Deep Walnut (above) and Dulux Narrow Neck (below).

BENCHTOP/SPLASHBACK Antarctic White stone, Granite & Marble Works.

HARDWARE 'Ascot' knobs and 'Surrey' Handles in Acid Washed Brass, Hepburn Hardware.

APPLIANCES V-Zug cooktop and ovens, Miele dishwasher, all Winnings.

SINK Abey 'Lago' undermount sink, Sydney Tap & Bathware.

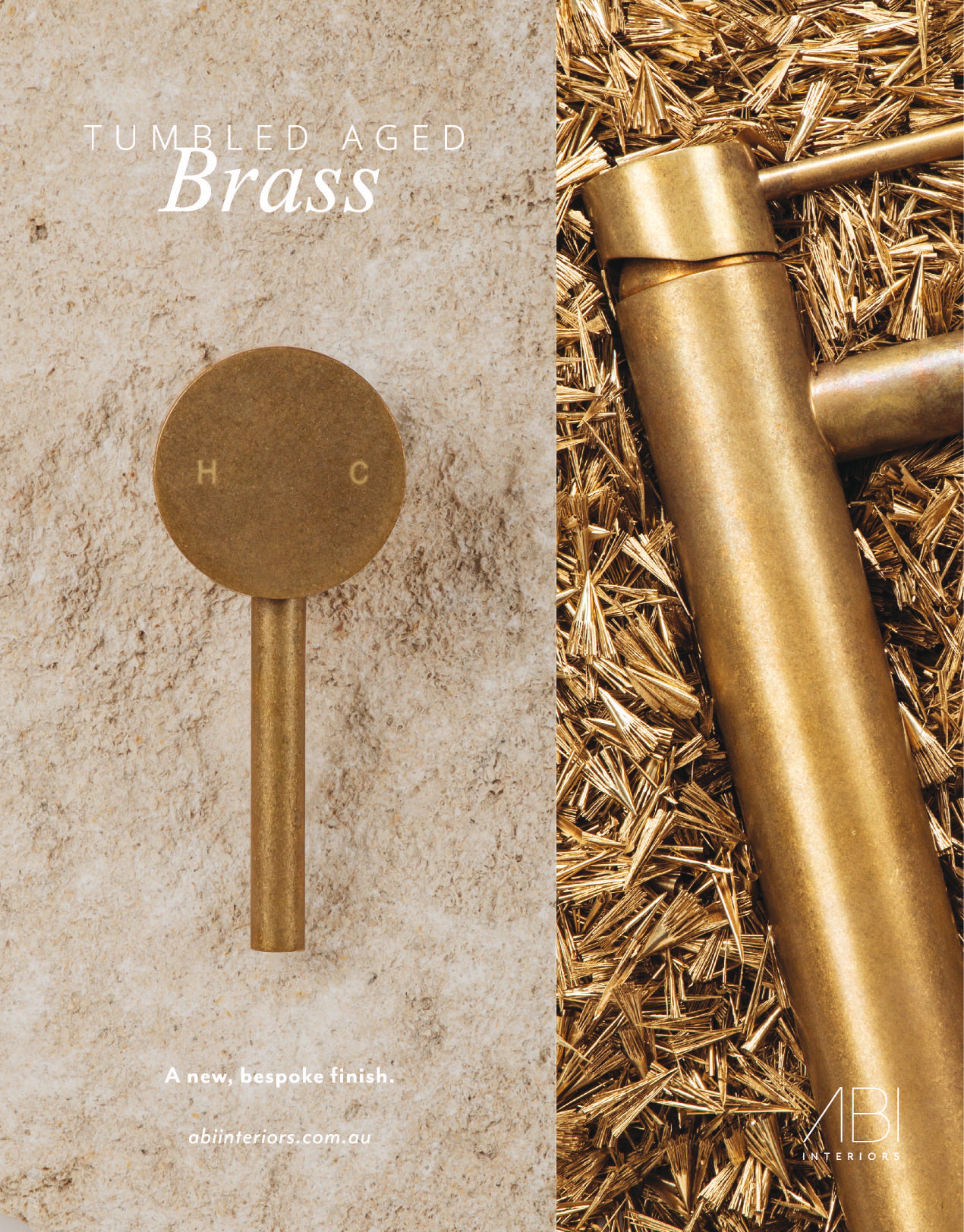
TAPWARE 'City Stik' kitchen mixer in Weathered Brass, Brodware.

LIGHTING 'Spru' pendant light in Spotted Gum, Fluxwood.

FURNITURE 'Uccio' stools, Barbera Design. Pots and decor, Kate Nixon Store.

ARTWORKS *Still life with jatz* by Matilda Michell. *Echoes of Memory* and *Reminiscence* by Nicholas Bryan-Brown.

FLOORS Garonne tumbled limestone, Eco Outdoor. Timber flooring, existing.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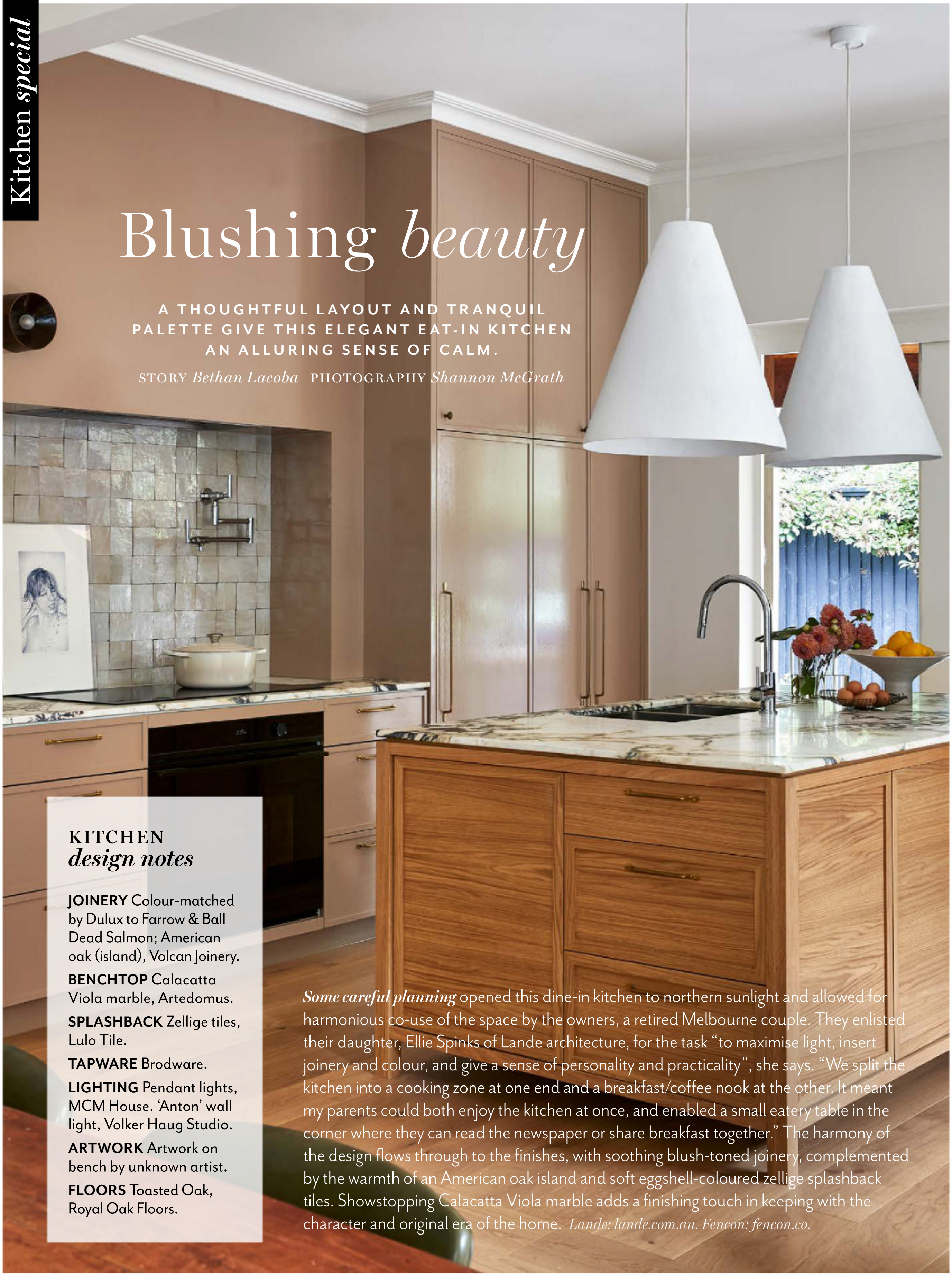

Blushing *beauty*

A THOUGHTFUL LAYOUT AND TRANQUIL PALETTE GIVE THIS ELEGANT EAT-IN KITCHEN AN ALLURING SENSE OF CALM.

STORY *Bethan Lacoba* PHOTOGRAPHY *Shannon McGrath*

KITCHEN *design notes*

JOINERY Colour-matched by Dulux to Farrow & Ball Dead Salmon; American oak (island), Volcan Joinery.

BENCHTOP Calacatta Viola marble, Artedomus.

SPLASHBACK Zellige tiles, Lulo Tile.

TAPWARE Brodware.

LIGHTING Pendant lights, MCM House. 'Anton' wall light, Volker Haug Studio.

ARTWORK Artwork on bench by unknown artist.

FLOORS Toasted Oak, Royal Oak Floors.

Some careful planning opened this dine-in kitchen to northern sunlight and allowed for harmonious co-use of the space by the owners, a retired Melbourne couple. They enlisted their daughter, Ellie Spinks of Lande architecture, for the task "to maximise light, insert joinery and colour, and give a sense of personality and practicality", she says. "We split the kitchen into a cooking zone at one end and a breakfast/coffee nook at the other. It meant my parents could both enjoy the kitchen at once, and enabled a small eatery table in the corner where they can read the newspaper or share breakfast together." The harmony of the design flows through to the finishes, with soothing blush-toned joinery, complemented by the warmth of an American oak island and soft eggshell-coloured zellige splashback tiles. Showstopping Calacatta Viola marble adds a finishing touch in keeping with the character and original era of the home. *Lande: lande.com.au. Fencon: fencon.co.*

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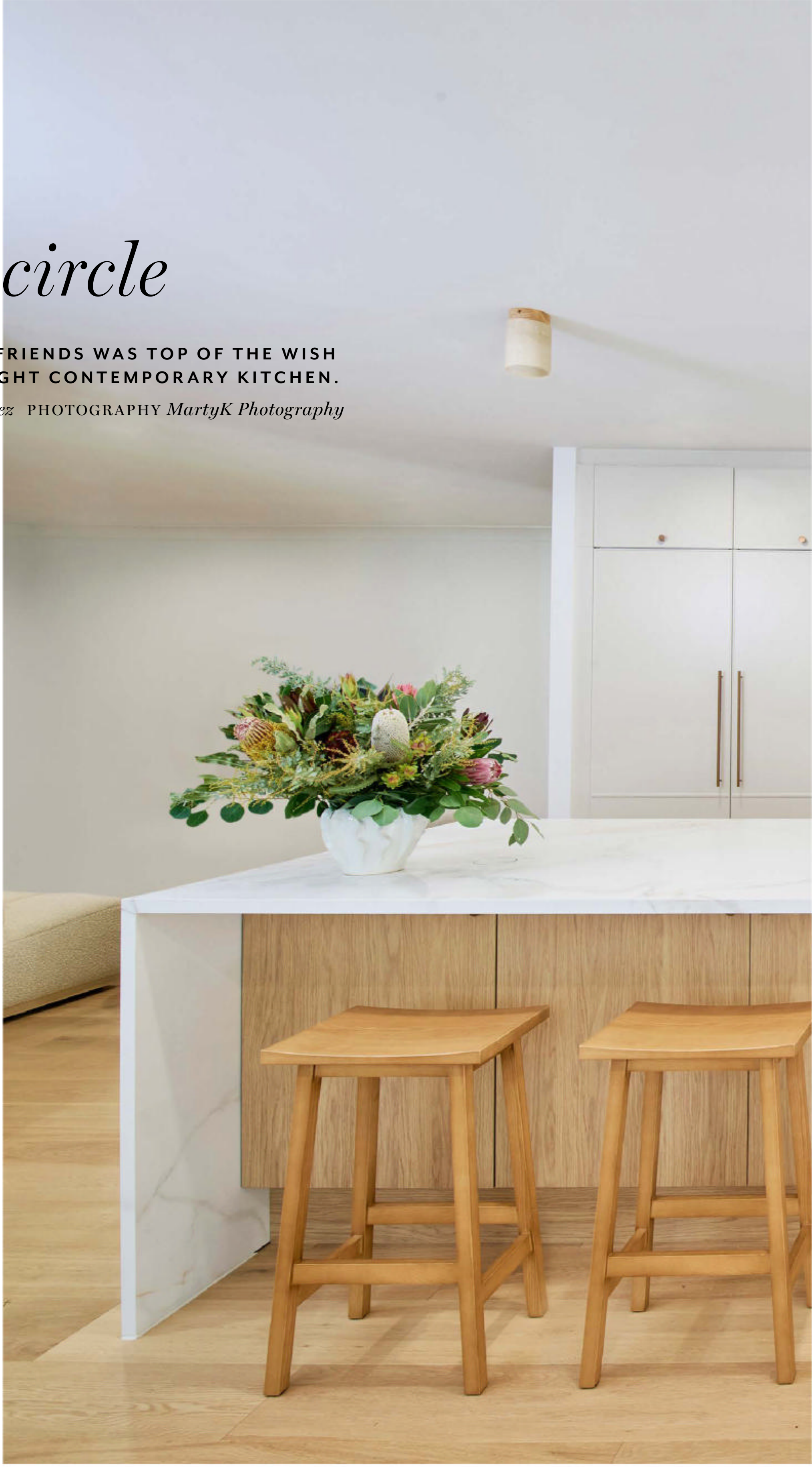
Inner *circle*

ROOM TO ENTERTAIN FAMILY AND FRIENDS WAS TOP OF THE WISH LIST FOR THE OWNERS OF THIS BRIGHT CONTEMPORARY KITCHEN.

STORY *Debbie Duncan* STYLING *Daniela Lopez* PHOTOGRAPHY *MartyK Photography*

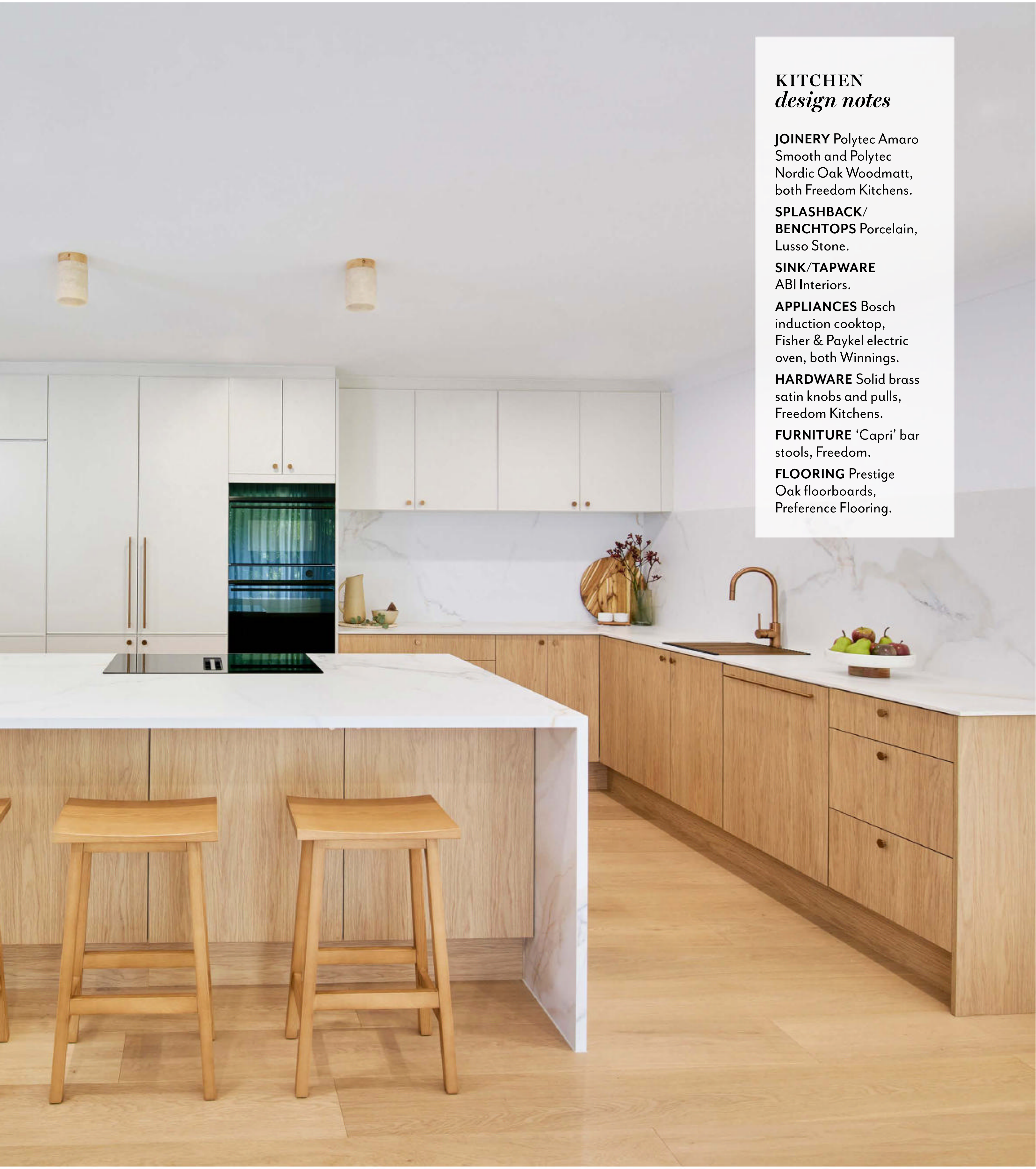


Modern Japandi meets coastal style in this newly transformed kitchen by Kinsman in a fresh and modern Brisbane home. The original U-shaped kitchen, however, had been blocked off to the outdoors and an over-sized column containing the pantry closed off the room from the rest of the home. The owner, Lara, had a clear vision to transform the space. "The main things I wanted were to add lots of storage, inject a contemporary style and to connect the kitchen to the outdoors," she says.

The joinery profiles and neutral tones offered by Freedom Kitchens fitted the bill, while reconfiguring the kitchen into an L-shaped layout with a central island bench created a seamless flow between the kitchen, the garden and the open-plan living and dining areas. Lara couldn't be happier with the result. "I wanted the kitchen to have wow factor. I wanted it to be the heart of the home and a place for people to be able to gather around," she says. "Design decisions, such as having the cooktop on the island bench, mean that we can cook and entertain at the same time."

Freedom Kitchens: freedom.com.au.

Kinsman: Kinsman.com.au.



KITCHEN *design notes*

JOINERY Polytec Amaro Smooth and Polytec Nordic Oak Woodmatt, both Freedom Kitchens.

SPLASHBACK/ BENCHTOPS Porcelain, Lusso Stone.

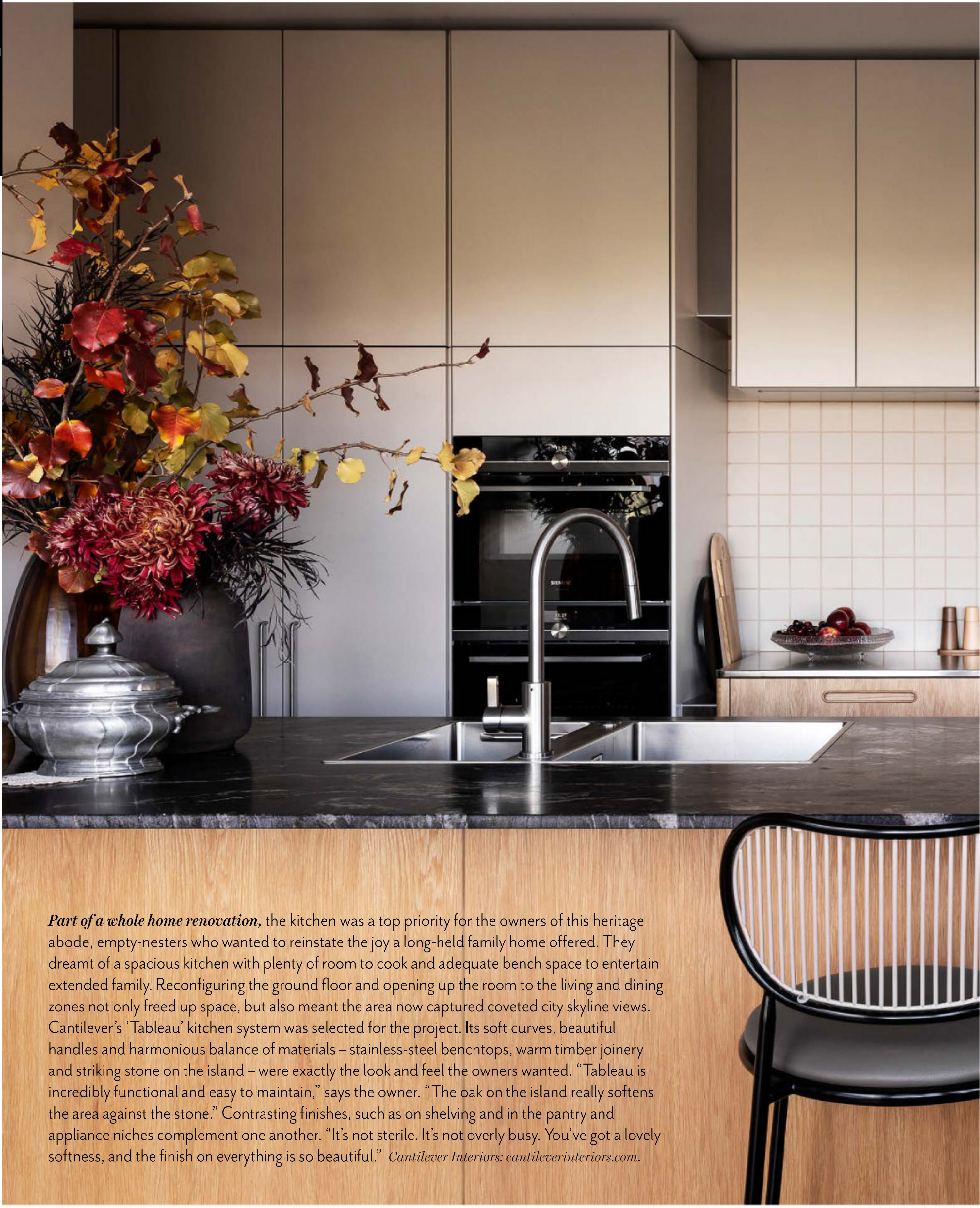
SINK/TAPWARE ABI Interiors.

APPLIANCES Bosch induction cooktop, Fisher & Paykel electric oven, both Winnings.

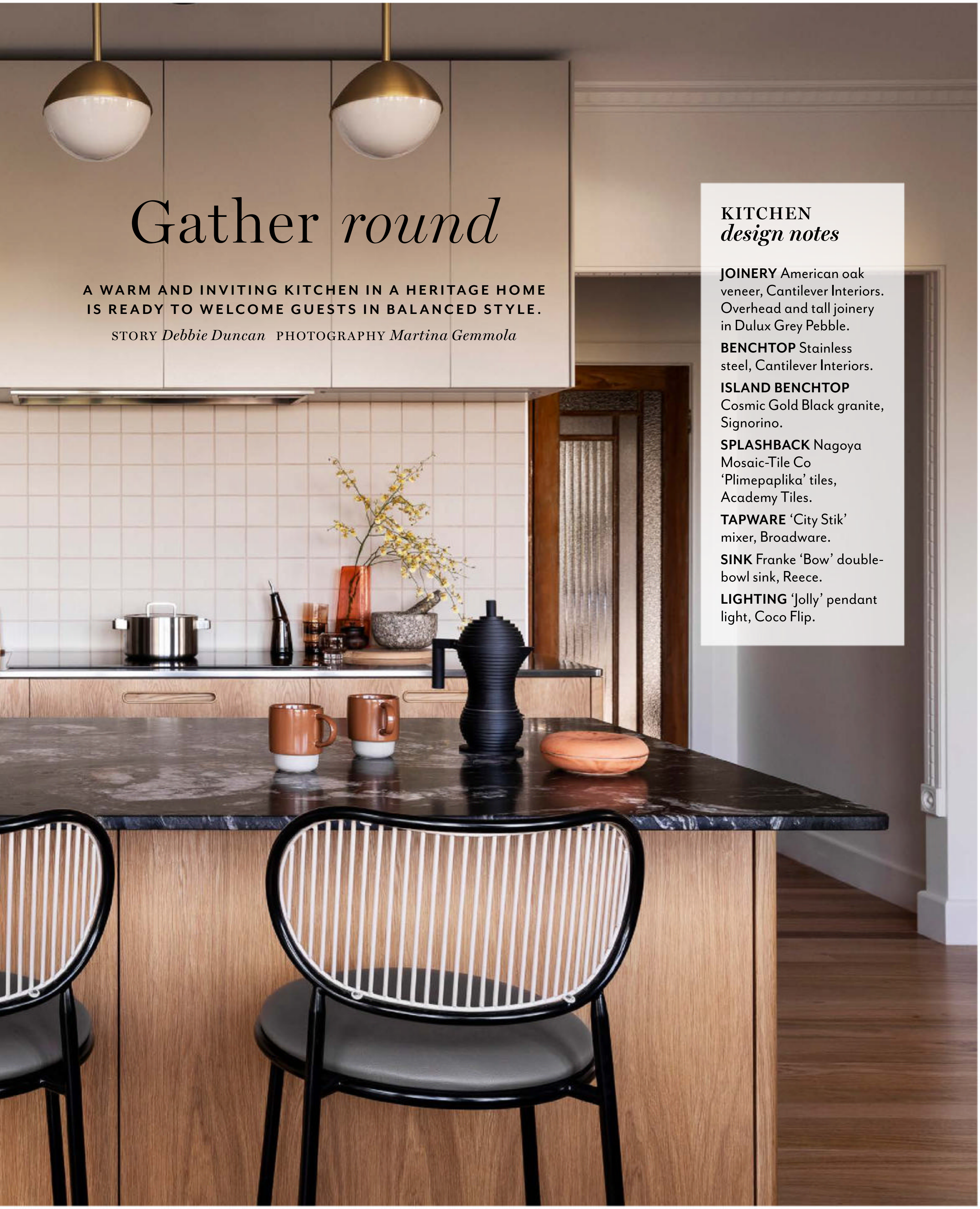
HARDWARE Solid brass satin knobs and pulls, Freedom Kitchens.

FURNITURE 'Capri' bar stools, Freedom.

FLOORING Prestige Oak floorboards, Preference Flooring.



Part of a whole home renovation, the kitchen was a top priority for the owners of this heritage abode, empty-nesters who wanted to reinstate the joy a long-held family home offered. They dreamt of a spacious kitchen with plenty of room to cook and adequate bench space to entertain extended family. Reconfiguring the ground floor and opening up the room to the living and dining zones not only freed up space, but also meant the area now captured coveted city skyline views. Cantilever's 'Tableau' kitchen system was selected for the project. Its soft curves, beautiful handles and harmonious balance of materials – stainless-steel benchtops, warm timber joinery and striking stone on the island – were exactly the look and feel the owners wanted. "Tableau is incredibly functional and easy to maintain," says the owner. "The oak on the island really softens the area against the stone." Contrasting finishes, such as on shelving and in the pantry and appliance niches complement one another. "It's not sterile. It's not overly busy. You've got a lovely softness, and the finish on everything is so beautiful." *Cantilever Interiors: cantileverinteriors.com.*



Gather *round*

A WARM AND INVITING KITCHEN IN A HERITAGE HOME IS READY TO WELCOME GUESTS IN BALANCED STYLE.

STORY *Debbie Duncan* PHOTOGRAPHY *Martina Gemmola*

KITCHEN *design notes*

JOINERY American oak veneer, Cantilever Interiors. Overhead and tall joinery in Dulux Grey Pebble.

BENCHTOP Stainless steel, Cantilever Interiors.

ISLAND BENCHTOP Cosmic Gold Black granite, Signorino.

SPLASHBACK Nagoya Mosaic-Tile Co 'Plimepaplika' tiles, Academy Tiles.

TAPWARE 'City Stik' mixer, Broadware.

SINK Franke 'Bow' double-bowl sink, Reece.

LIGHTING 'Jolly' pendant light, Coco Flip.

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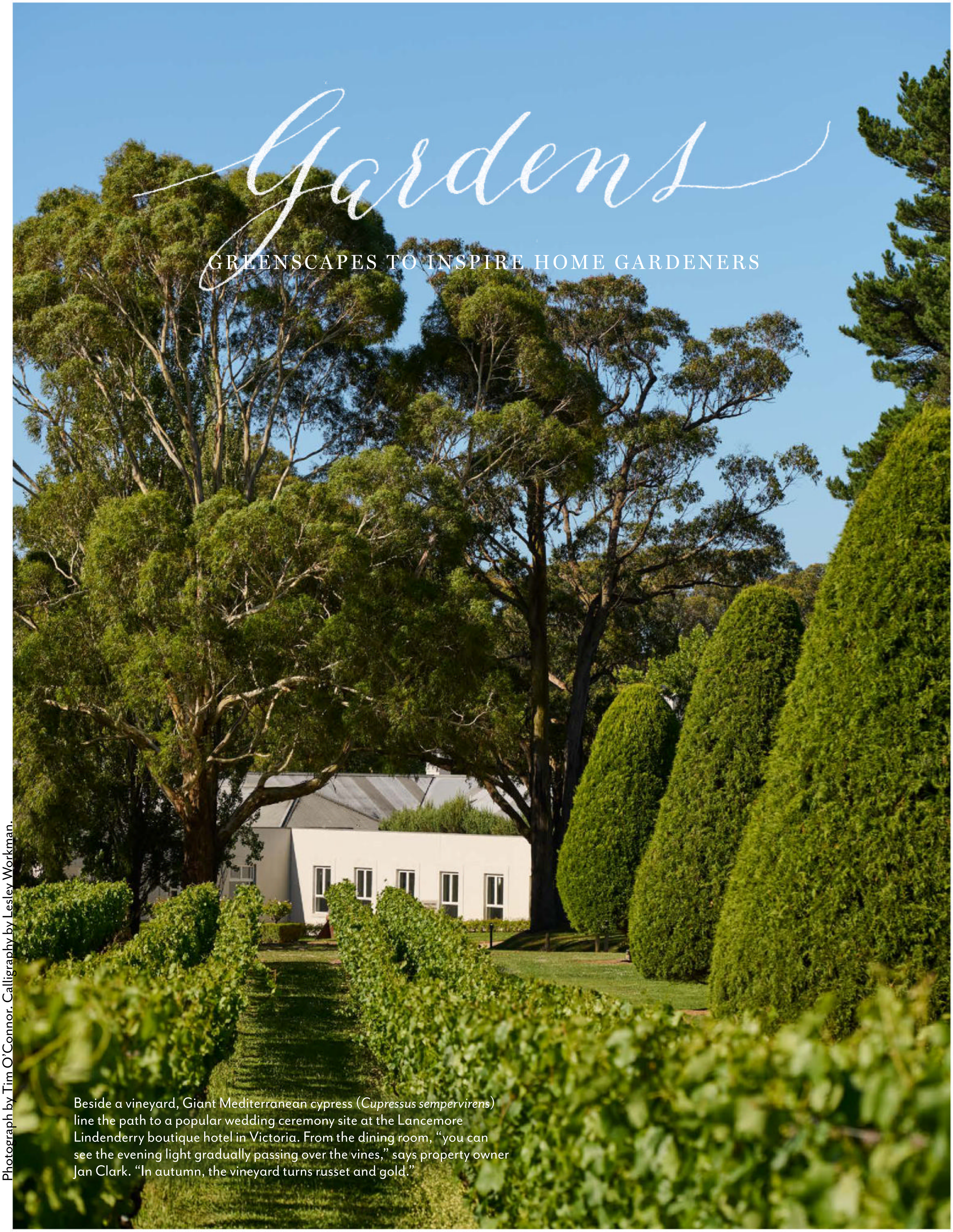


Beside a vineyard, Giant Mediterranean cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*) line the path to a popular wedding ceremony site at the Lancemore Lindenderry boutique hotel in Victoria. From the dining room, “you can see the evening light gradually passing over the vines,” says property owner Jan Clark. “In autumn, the vineyard turns russet and gold.”

Photograph by Tim O’Connor. Calligraphy by Lesley Workman.

A gravel path meanders down to a lake between rows of Japanese maples (*Acer palmatum*), underplanted with Japanese camellia (*Camellia japonica*). The autumn colours of the maples attract many photographers. **OPPOSITE** The dining room courtyard has a variety of plants that provide flowers for most of the year, including spike lavender (*Lavandula latifolia*) and groundcover roses.

A vine ROMANCE

Lush hotel grounds on the Mornington Peninsula are inspired by the owner's childhood summers and European travels.

STORY *Chris Pearson* | PHOTOGRAPHY *Tim O'Connor*

In the 1960s, Jan Clark, the founder and owner of the Lancemore Lindenderry boutique hotel, spent idyllic childhood summers at her parents' beach house nearby on the Mornington Peninsula. "This area was little more than a blink-and-you'll-miss-it sort of a place, with acres upon acres of fruit trees and a few houses occupied by orchardists," she says. "Instead of pinot and chardonnay vines, this north-facing, well-drained hillside was covered in apple trees." So, when she wanted to establish a special getaway a mere hour's drive from Melbourne, she wanted to relive some of that fruit-tree-filled, sun-soaked past.

It was the early 1990s and the time was ripe. Having often holidayed in Europe, Jan was aware of chateaux and stately manors being converted into boutique hotels. Simultaneously, on the Peninsula, orchards were being replaced by pioneering vignerons and lush gardens. "It was a little piece of paradise. I could see the embryo of the lifestyle locations I had enjoyed in Europe," she says.

The dream came true on a "glorious February day" in 1993, when she set foot on this property. She was greeted by three hectares of young vines, towering eucalyptus, a triangle of bushland and two rows of elms beside a small lake. The land was inundated with wild blackberries and waist-high grass. "The only sound was twittering birds. I felt an overwhelming sense of peace. It was as if I had come home to my special place," says Jan.

"IF YOU STAND STILL, OBSERVE AND LISTEN, THE LAND WILL TELL YOU HOW TO GENTLY MOULD IT."

Jan Clark, owner

First up, with the help of maintenance manager Geoff Venn, she brought in the earthmovers. After building the luxury hotel you see today, she turned to the gardens, drawing inspiration from the great English 20th-century landscaper Russell Page. "From him, I learnt the importance of the genius loci – if you stand still and carefully observe and listen, the land will tell you how to gently mould it," she says. "Page also often referred back to history, to different civilisations and their concept of a garden and I have done similarly."

She also drew fertile inspiration from her extensive travels. Terraces and walkways were etched onto the hillside, with "hidden seating areas where guests could discover private, sunny spots." Also on the wish list was an orchard, together with vegetable and herb gardens to service the restaurant.

But the pièce de résistance was a grand walk. "The cone-cut cypresses marching through the centre of the vineyard pay homage to formal French design," says Jan. "It's become a popular, if somewhat dauntingly long, aisle for brides." The Zen Garden features a long rectangular pond, highlighting a Michael Cartwright sculpture: "It's a direct steal from the geometry of the Alhambra," she says. Meanwhile, the Sunken Garden with its radiating rose beds was inspired by a Parisienne parterre. "All these influences come together in a harmonious whole under a canopy of eucalyptus," says Jan. And, between the wings of the building, she created private courtyards. "In these, I indulged myself, with diverse plantings such as silver birches, crab apples, roses, clematis and mock orange." Daisies, roses, geraniums and proteas provide ready flowers for the restaurant and lounges, and plane trees line the driveway.

By the lake, a copse of silver birches with gleaming white trunks are reflected in the water. On the far side, drifts of hydrangeas were planted. Existing elms were underplanted with hundreds of daffodil bulbs and, appropriately for this functions venue, swathes of rambling roses "hang down along the lake's edge in a glorious froth of white each spring". Three terraces provide shady seating areas, the beds filled with camellias and rhododendrons, which thrive in the clay earth.

In tandem with the soil, the climate smiles on this garden. Rain falls reliably throughout the year, while the temperatures are mild. Garden water is collected from the hotel roof and fed into large tanks, supplemented by water from the bore. As the lake sits above a spring, it is always full.

And Jan's sunkissed childhood is never forgotten. In the orchard she grows "old Peninsula favourites" – apples, pears, plums, lemons, mulberries and walnuts." Guests are invited to pick and eat directly from the trees. "You can't get much fresher and what a delight to bite into a crunchy apple still warm from the sun." **H&G**

Lancemore Lindenderry, Red Hill, Vic: *lancemore.com.au.*

OPPOSITE *Clockwise from top left* The garden rooms all open onto a lawn studded with eucalyptus trees, while two "very special jacarandas" can be glimpsed through the trees. "Roses thrive at Lindenderry," says Jan. "The old-fashioned varieties, such as these, with their delicate perfume are my favourites." Lavender (*Lavandula spp*) grows well in the garden's sunny spots and can be relied on to produce colour for most of the year, according to Jan. "We replace them every two years to maintain a strong flowering." Beautiful hydrangeas (*Hydrangea spp*), a summer mainstay, are found throughout the garden. "These by the lake create a blue reflection in the still, dark water," says Jan.

FEATURE PLANTS

TREES

Crab apple (*Malus ioensis 'Plena'*)

Jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*)

Japanese maple (*Acer palmatum*)

Mediterranean cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*)

Mexican alder (*Alnus jorullensis*)

Silver birch (*Betula pendula*)

SHRUBS

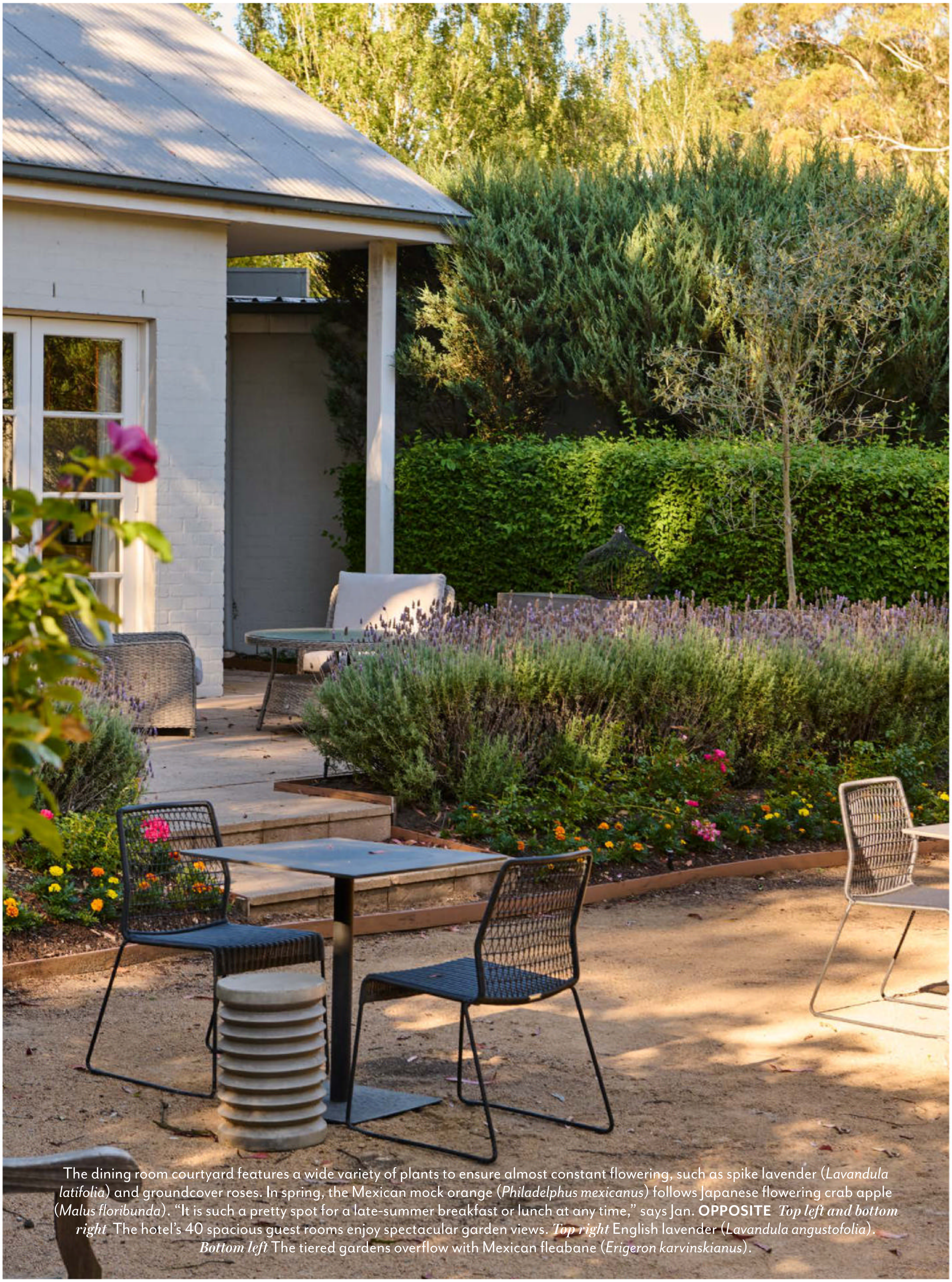
Proteas (*Protea spp* and *leucadendrons*)

Grape vine (*Vitis vinifera* 'Chardonnay' and 'Pinot noir')

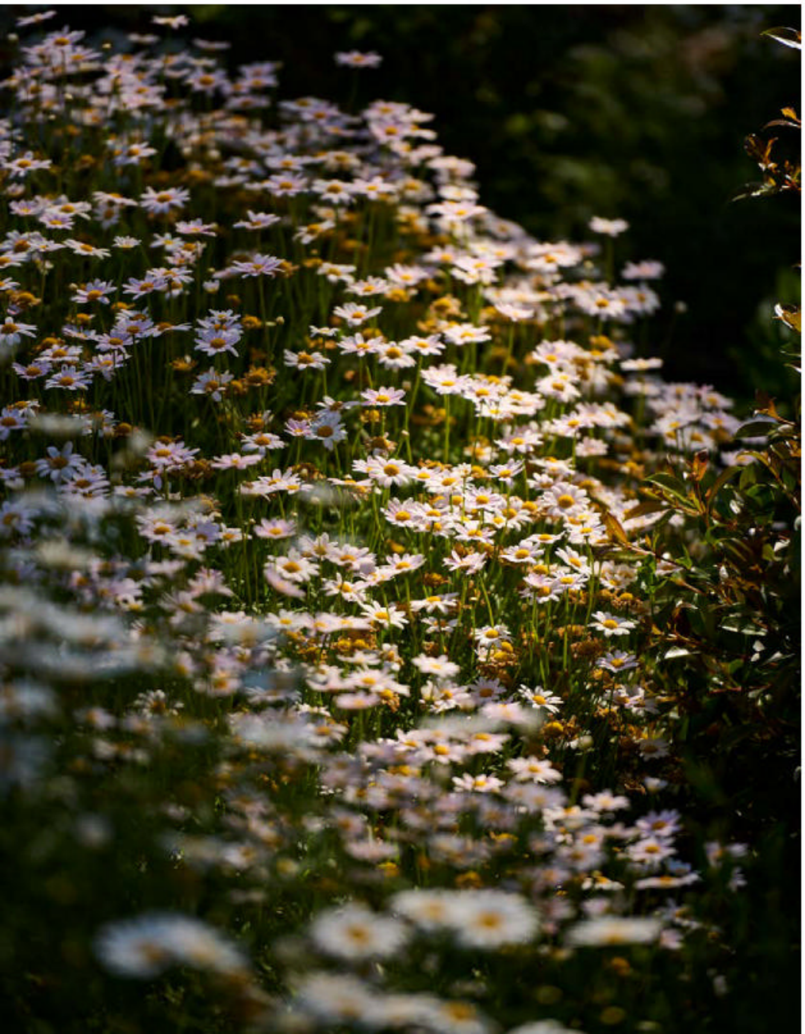
CLIMBERS

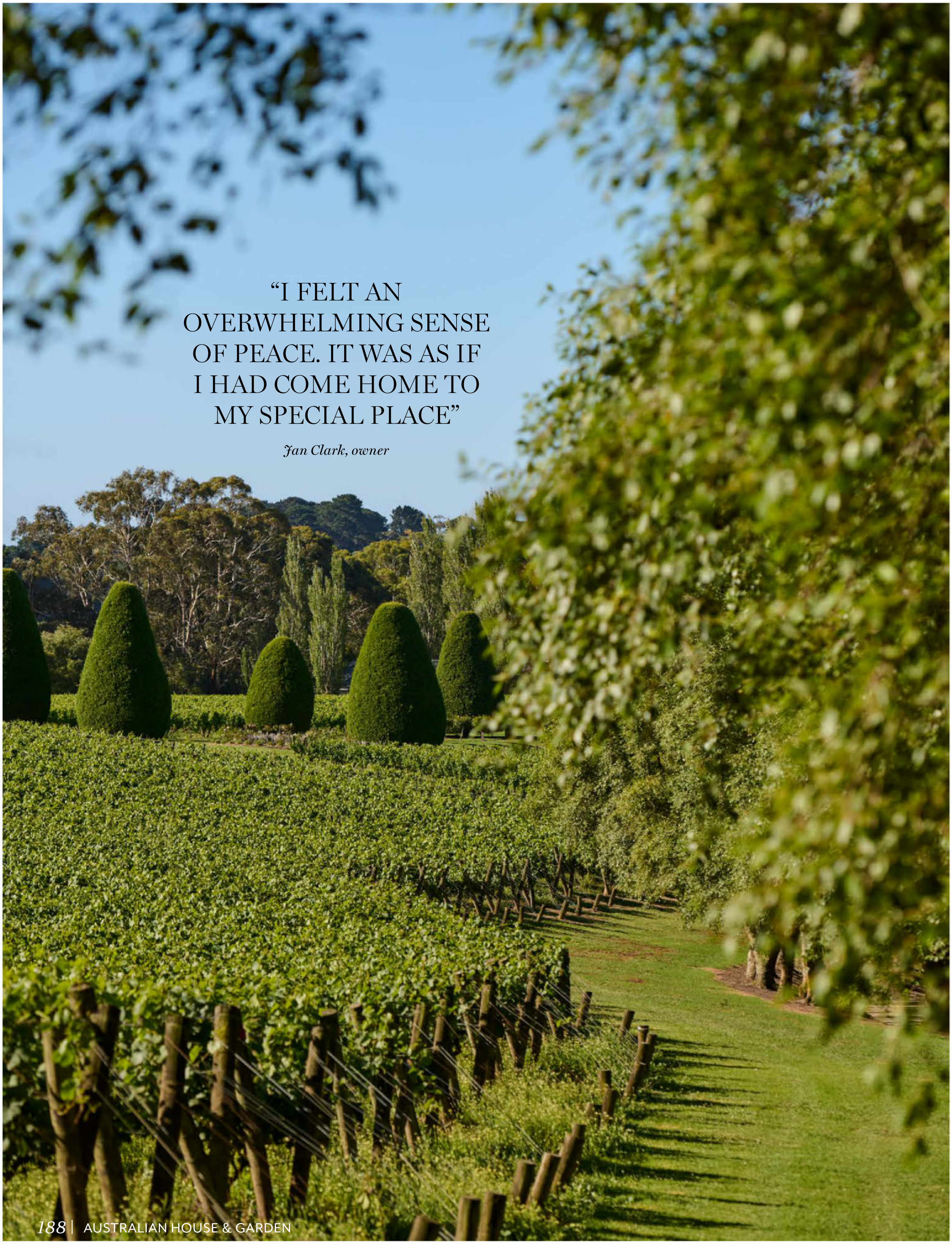
Chinese wisteria (*Wisteria sinensis*)

Rambling rose (*Rosa* 'Wedding Day')



The dining room courtyard features a wide variety of plants to ensure almost constant flowering, such as spike lavender (*Lavandula latifolia*) and groundcover roses. In spring, the Mexican mock orange (*Philadelphus mexicanus*) follows Japanese flowering crab apple (*Malus floribunda*). "It is such a pretty spot for a late-summer breakfast or lunch at any time," says Jan. **OPPOSITE** *Top left and bottom right* The hotel's 40 spacious guest rooms enjoy spectacular garden views. *Top right* English lavender (*Lavandula angustofolia*). *Bottom left* The tiered gardens overflow with Mexican fleabane (*Erigeron karvinskianus*).

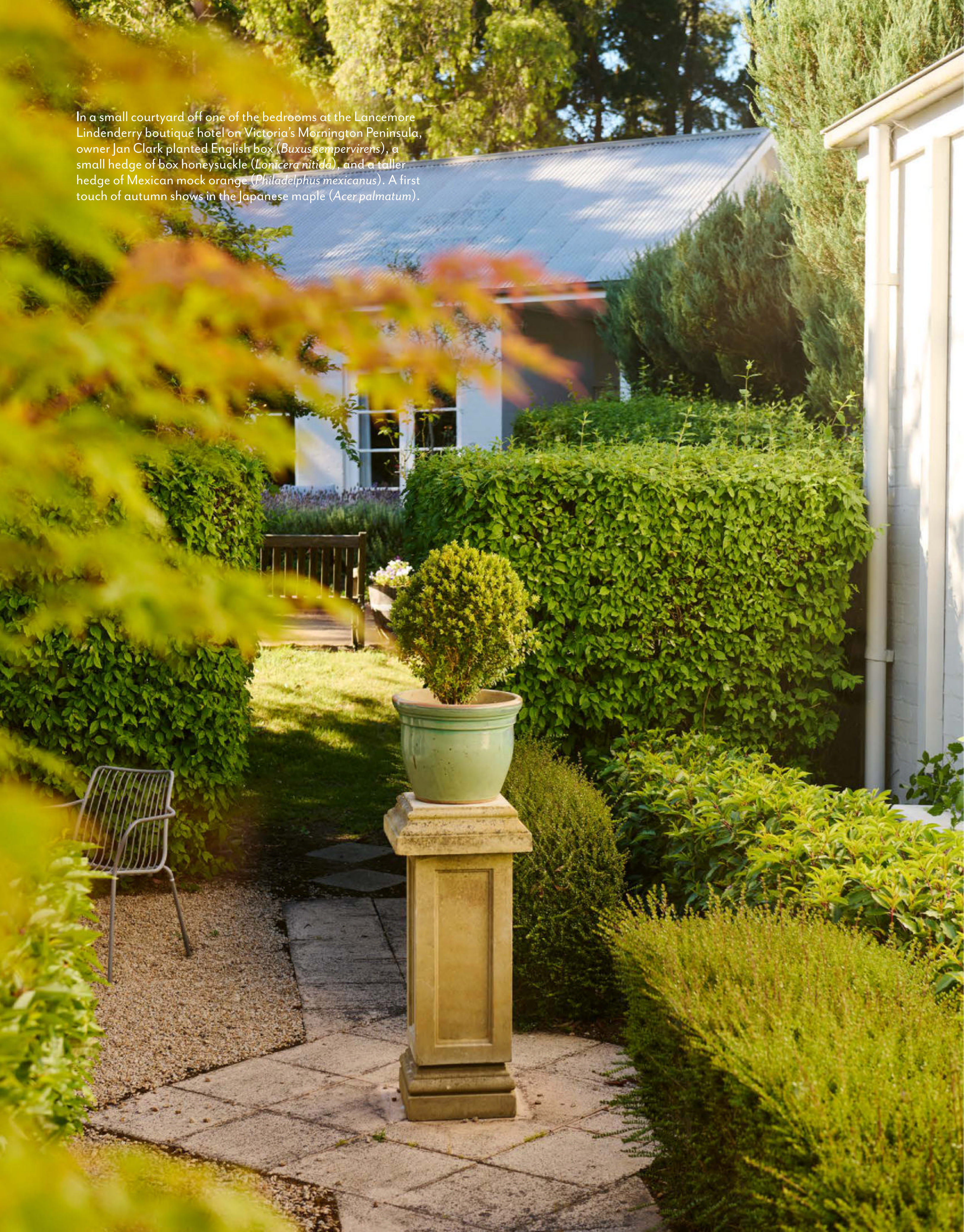




“I FELT AN
OVERWHELMING SENSE
OF PEACE. IT WAS AS IF
I HAD COME HOME TO
MY SPECIAL PLACE”

Jan Clark, owner

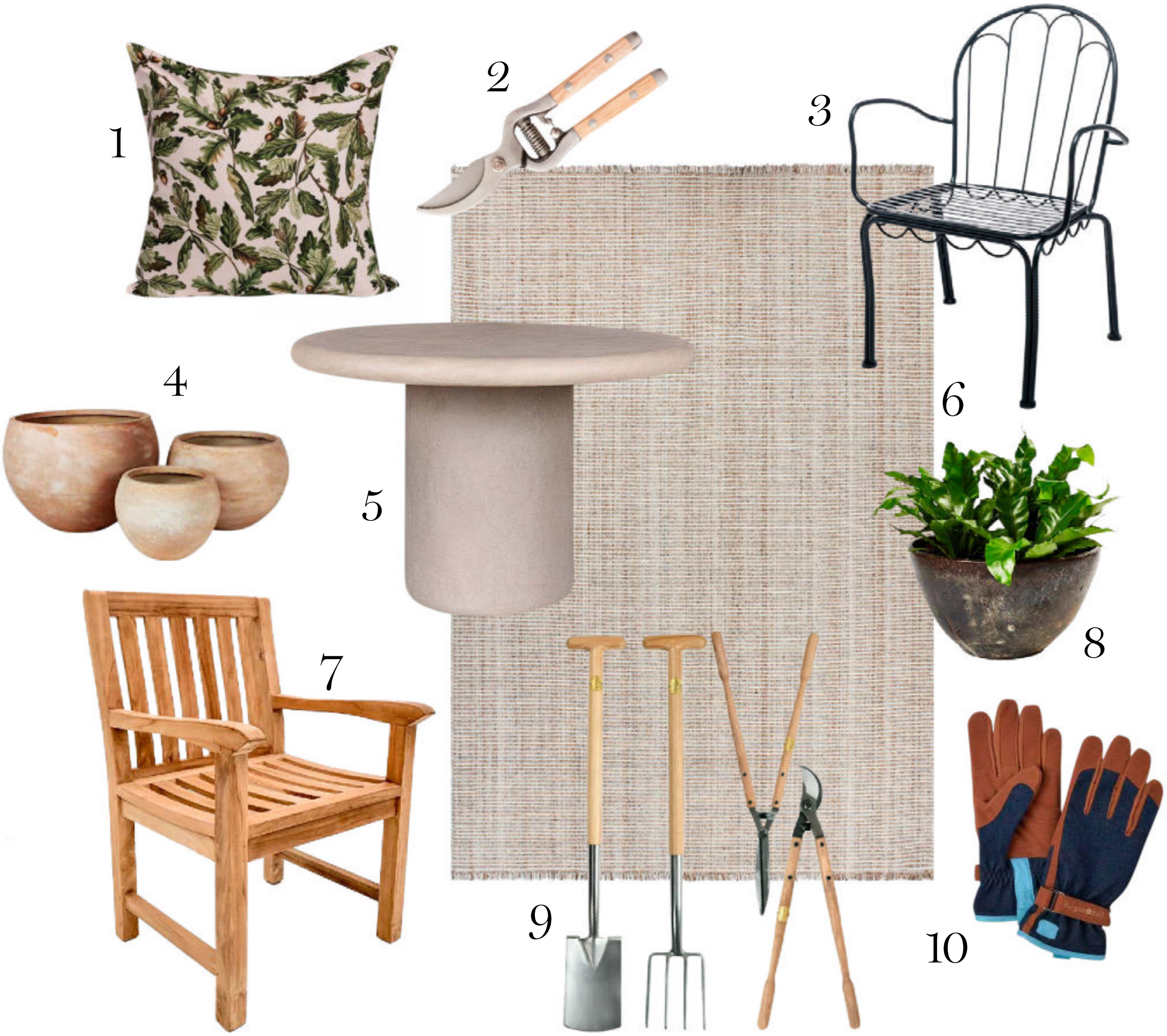
Property owner Jan Clark enjoying a quiet moment in one of the alfresco seating areas ("where guests could discover private, sunny spots," she says) that were on her list of must-haves when designing the garden. **OPPOSITE** From the dining room, "you can see the evening light gradually passing over the vines", she says. "In autumn the vineyard turns russet and gold."



In a small courtyard off one of the bedrooms at the Lancemore Lindenderry boutique hotel on Victoria's Mornington Peninsula, owner Jan Clark planted English box (*Buxus sempervirens*), a small hedge of box honeysuckle (*Lonicera nitida*), and a taller hedge of Mexican mock orange (*Philadelphus mexicanus*). A first touch of autumn shows in the Japanese maple (*Acer palmatum*).

PASSION PROJECT

Classic tools and timeless outdoor furniture that tick all the boxes for spending happy days in the garden.



1 'Oak Leaf' **cushion cover**, $39.95, Alfresco Emporium. **2** Ryset 'Ashwood Heritage' **secateurs**, $39, Backyard Botanist. **3** 'Al Fresco' **dining chair** in Vintage Black, $799, Business & Pleasure Co. **4** 'Ball' **planters** in Sand, from $95 each, Terrace Outdoor Living. **5** 'Pair' **outdoor dining table**, $1599, Freedom. **6** 'Rhodes' recycled PET yarn **rug** in Teak, $1095, Baya. **7** 'Sierra' **armchair**, $629, The Teak Place. **8** Asplenium fern **indoor plant**, from $30, Garden Life. **9** Sophie Conran **tool set**, $415, Botanex. **10** Burgon & Ball 'Love The Glove' **gardening gloves** in Denim, $48, Quality Garden Supplies. **H&G**

Produced by Marissa Foye. Photograph (opposite) by Tim O'Connor.

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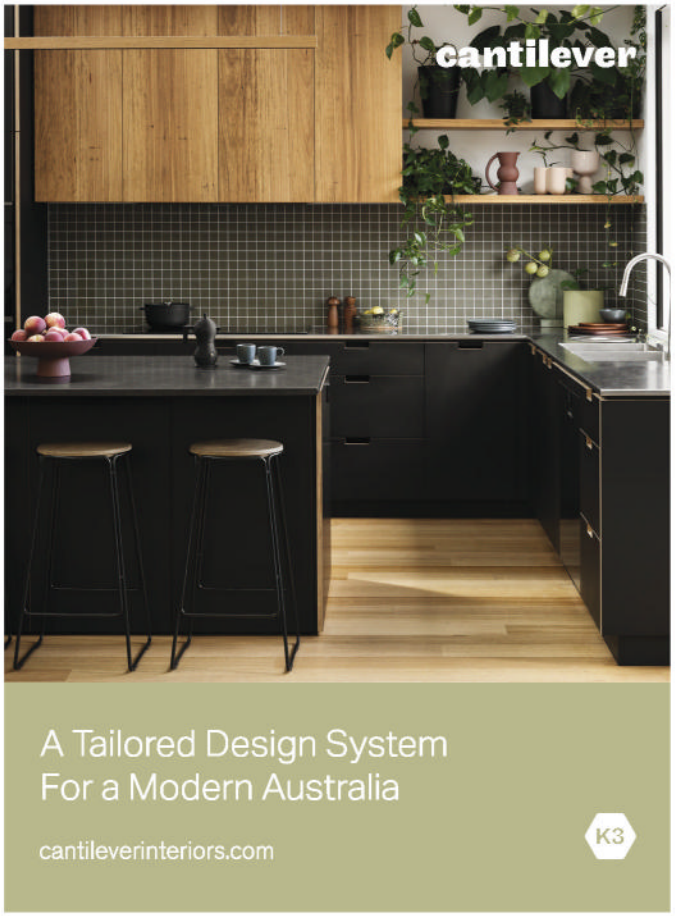
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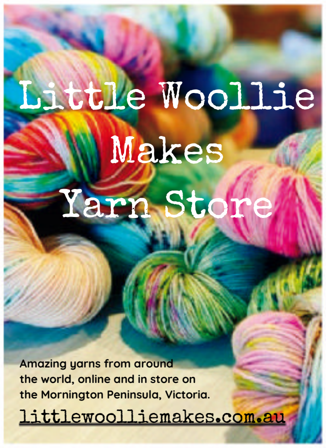
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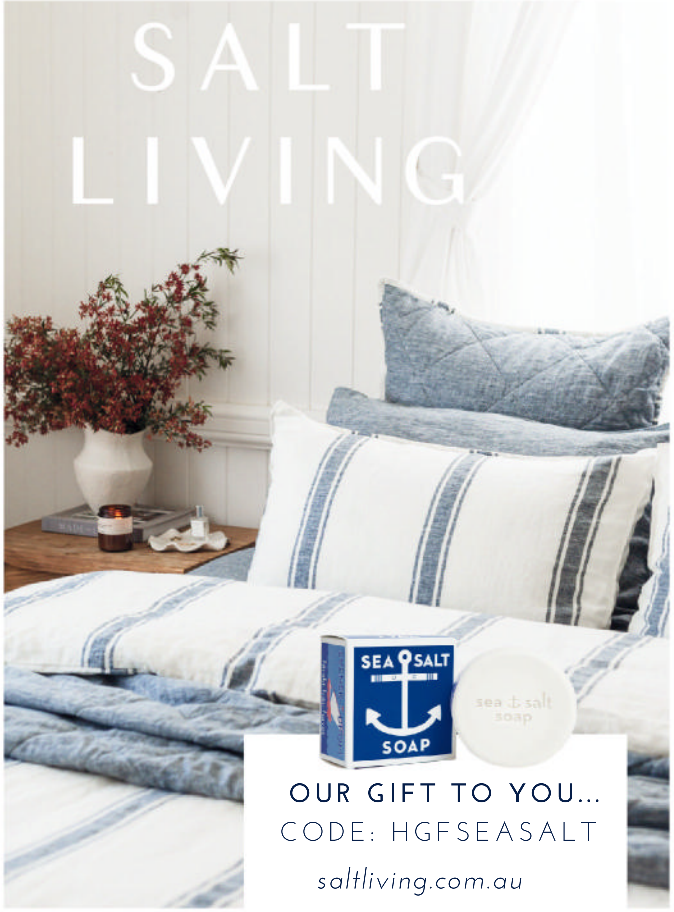
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Gabriela Oporto

The founder of Bakealicious By Gabriela shares a slice of her creative life and the story behind her bakery business.

PHOTOGRAPHY *Kristina Šoljo*

> *"There was something in me that always wanted to share with the rest of the world a slice of joy made by my own hands."*

Did my family, childhood and childhood home have an impact on my career?
Yes, definitely! My dad is a landscape designer. He was always drawing and building things with wood. He does carpentry as a hobby. Mum is also creative when it comes to writing – she has a way to say things and is a great storyteller. My entire family always cooked and we liked making everything from scratch.

By the age of four, I knew that I would be making a career from baking cakes.
I always loved baking and always knew this is what I wanted: to have a cake shop. There was something in me that always wanted to share with the rest of the world a slice of joy made by my own hands.

The most popular cake at my business, Bakealicious By Gabriela, is the Victoria sponge cake.
It's our bestseller. It's so simple yet so many people's favourite! Vanilla butter sponge with handmade raspberry coulis and fresh whipped cream.

I'm lucky the business is now at a stage where I don't have to go in to the shop anymore.
I just manage the staff. Typically, the number one task is customer enquiries and taking custom order requests. I also organise social media content, update the website and newsletters, manage rosters and timesheets, and order supplies. I also develop new cake flavours and I'm always looking for networking events and other areas where the business can be involved.

When I'm working, I listen to lots of music – non-stop! I like a bit of everything.
It's so hard to name just one genre! My Spotify playlists cover old school 1960s to 1980s, house, electronic, dance, grunge, chill, old school R'n'B, classical tunes, reggaeton/salsa. Some of my favourite bands [and artists] include Klangkarussell, Radiohead, The Strokes, Bob Dylan, The Hollies, Paul Kalkbrenner, Drake, Caribou, Bakermat, Snoop Dogg and Rihanna.

The biggest challenge in my career would have to be cashflow.
I could have grown quicker but I bootstrapped my business from day one.

To date, the biggest achievement I'm happy with is the brand I have created from nothing.
I am self-taught. Plus, baking cakes for Taylor Swift, Ed Sheeran and Harry Styles is up there. The catering company that organises all the food at the concerts backstage said they had found my website and loved the look of all my cakes. They also loved how they were handmade from scratch and were amazed at the fact that I could also cater to many dietary requirements like gluten-free, dairy-free, vegan and sugar-free. They started by ordering a few cakes and then kept ordering for various artists like the ones I mentioned.

Do I have any strategies for a satisfying work-life balance?
Ha ha! I am still working on this, however, I always make time for my family, friends and the gym, no matter what. Music and running nourish my creativity.

My inspiration comes from...
Pablo Neruda, The Beatles, Mozart, Douglas Tompkins and Frida Kahlo are all creatives and personalities who I admire and who have inspired me.

On my reading list at the moment are:
Decide: Work Smarter, Reduce Your Stress and Lead by Example by Steve McClatchy, *Measure What Matters: The Simple Idea that Drives 10x Growth* by John Doerr, *Thinking, Fast and Slow* by Daniel Kahneman and *The Metabolism Miracle* by Diane Kress.

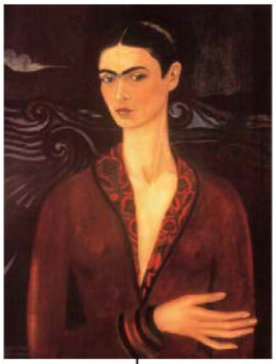
My idea of true luxury would be not having to stress about buying certain things.
Being able to enjoy nice dinners, holidays, clothes etc. But ultimately, having good mental and physical health. Without this you have nothing.

I was born in Australia, but my parents are from Chile.
My parents missed their homeland so much that we moved back and forth a couple of times. Living in Chile I was surrounded by the strong culture around making and sharing food with loved ones over long lunches and *sobremesa*, what we call spending time at the table after a meal enjoying lovely conversations.

What I would like to tackle next with my work is to write a cookbook.
This is something I hope to achieve in the near future, and I would also like to have a baking show on TV.

The travel destinations next on my wish list would have to be...
The Maldives, French Polynesia, Iceland and Portugal. **H&G**

Bakealicious By Gabriela: bakealiciousbygabriela.com.au.



The International Bestseller
Thinking, Fast and Slow
Daniel Kahneman

GABRIELA'S FAVOURITE THINGS
From top Self-Portrait in a Velvet Dress by Frida Kahlo. Victoria sponge **cake**, from $70, Bakealicious. *Thinking, Fast and Slow* **book** by Daniel Kahneman, $26.99, Penguin. Lisbon, Portugal. ***Opposite*** Gabriela with her delicious creations.

Photograph by Getty Images (Portugal).

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